

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3497.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1894.

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Town Hall, Oldham, October 31st, 1894.

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LITERATURE

Sir William Gregory, K.C.M.G.: an Autobiography. Edited by Lady Gregory. With Portrait. (Murray.)

IN the case of an autobiography not intended, apparently, by the writer for publication, too close a scrutiny is precluded, both on the part of the public, who are recipients of what in the present instance is certainly very well worth having, and on the part of the reviewer, who has to bear in mind the circumstances of the publication. The autobiographer died without having had an opportunity of revising what has been printed; and his widow, who has edited the work with sound judgment on the whole, might very well pass over quite unconsciously certain mistakes, whether of fact or of scholarship, which should not, and probably would not, have escaped the notice of her husband, who evidently possessed a retentive memory, and was demonstrably a ripe and sound scholar. Having given two instances of what is meant, the reviewer will have cleared the way for a more general treatment of the work, which is so highly interesting that nobody who reads it can fail to derive gratification, if not also edification, from it, and to feel thankful to Lady Gregory for having decided upon the publication of it.

The first sample of that which would have been better for revision occurs at pp. 85-86, where the well-known story is told of Mrs. Norton selling to the *Times* the secret that Peel's Cabinet had resolved to repeal the Corn Laws:—

"The same evening, after the Council, Sidney Herbert dined tête-à-tête with Mrs. Norton.... and before dinner was over, she had wormed out of him the decision of the Cabinet. After dinner she asked him to remain while she went to see a sick friend for a short time, and in half-an-hour she returned. In the meanwhile she had taken a cab and driven down to the *Times* office. There she saw Barnes, the editor. She gave him chapter and verse, and returned to poor Sidney Herbert with 500*l.* in her pocket. The next day the announcement was made in the *Times*. that the Cabinet had met and resolved on the repeal of the Corn Laws. This was on the 5th of December, 1845."

Now Barnes died on the 7th of May, 1841, so that there is something wrong in the construction of this story, although Sir William Gregory says: "It was told me on such authority that I cannot doubt it." Had Sir William lived to revise his autobiography he might have altered either his belief or the personality of the *Times* editor, or something else. At any rate, it is plain that proper caution must be exercised by Sir William's readers as regards little matters of detail.

The other sample occurs very much earlier in the volume, at p. 37 in fact; but although a mere matter of egregious misprints, it would have given so good a classical scholar as Sir William a series of fits, whether of laughter or of something more dangerous. What we read is: "A knowledge of Dawes's, Canon's, and Parson's, and Elmsby's rules and emendations was held to be far more important than a genuine appreciation of classic literature." Poor Dawes! poor Parson! poor Elmsley! and lucky "Canon," to have been associated with such celebrated Greek scholars! For, of course, the passage should read thus: "A knowledge of Dawes's canons, and Parson's and Elmsley's," &c. Against such misprints, which are frequent and appalling, it is only right to warn the reader; though Lady Gregory, who probably has no sympathy with Dawes's canons, could not be expected, of her own unaided self, to detect the error.

We may now proceed to deal briefly with the career of the autobiographer, who was undoubtedly a remarkable and distinguished man, although he did not achieve greatness or even have it thrust upon him. Still, during a short period of a long life, he did excellent service and earned for himself appreciation at home, and gratitude and a monument abroad. He was an Irishman, somewhat of the type with which the novels of Charles Lever have made the world familiar, but with far more ballast and intellect and culture; and he was a rare example of a man who had arrested himself, or had been arrested, on the very descent to Avernus, and had accomplished the all but impossible feat of retracing his steps. The road which he took to ruin was gambling, not horse-racing; for betting on horse-races is a very different thing from horse-racing, and might as well be carried on by means of clothes-horses or *petits chevaux* as live thoroughbreds. If anybody desires further proof that it is not racing, but the gambling associated with racing, which not only ruins men in all classes of life, but brutalizes them into the bargain, let him read Sir William's account of his racehorse Damask, of the betting and the rascality connected therewith, and of the subsequent and consequent duel with Capt. Vaughan. The notorious Denis O'Kelly, the owner of Eclipse, virtually acknowledged as much, by the provisions of the will that he left; and the same confession is made by the celebrated Clerk of the Council, Mr. C. C. Greville, and other systematic bettors for winning's sake. Even the late Sir J. D. Astley's book, which was taken by the advocates of betting to be a manifesto, as it were, issued by one of themselves, was, almost in so many words, a warning to young men to abstain from trying to mend

their fortunes as poor Sir John had tried, but very much in vain, to mend his own. In fact, the Anti-Gambling League could not wish for better support than they get from Sir John's example.

But to return to Sir W. H. Gregory. Lovers of romance will be interested to know that he came of a family "who acquired their [English] property in the reign of Stephen, in 1162, and in whom there is the dormant peerage of Marmion"! Sir William's immediate ancestors, however, traced back to a gentleman who went over to Ireland with Cromwell, and settled there. Sir William (according to his own account, which differs slightly from Mr. Lawley's) was born in 1817, not at the ancestral domain, Coole Park, Gort, but at his grandfather's official residence in the Phoenix Park, of which the said grandfather, who was also Under Secretary for Ireland, was Ranger. There the future Sir William, when but seven years of age, made the acquaintance of the great Lord Wellesley, the Lord Lieutenant, whom the little boy offered to instruct in the art of fishing, and thereby won a great friend, in more than one sense. The boy went to Harrow, where he did extremely well, and thence to Oxford, where he gave promise of doing still better; but for reasons too long to give in detail he ultimately did not take even an ordinary degree. Meanwhile he had commenced the descent to Avernus by winning 300*l.* on Bloomsbury in the snow-storm Derby, for, as a shrewd writer has observed truly, "few young men can afford to lose, and fewer still to win, on the turf." Had young Gregory lost, instead of winning, he might possibly have dropped his newly acquired taste as well as his money, and, instead of contenting himself with the comparatively modest Governorship of Ceylon, might have rivalled or eclipsed the fame of his good friend, patron, and "pupil," the illustrious Lord Wellesley. However, the young plunger soon showed that he was capable of higher things; for in 1842, being but five-and-twenty years of age, he stood for Dublin city against Daniel O'Connell's candidate, the then Lord Morpeth, was elected by a majority of 390, and won the friendship of O'Connell himself. This was a success such as might have contented many a youth, though the purity of the election seems to have been tainted to a certain extent, to judge from a certain voucher "for 1,500 freemen, gratification at 3*l.* a head, 4,500*l.*," and from a couple of anecdotes related by Sir William. One has reference to a Mr. Keogh, a solicitor, of whom Sir William has written:—

"Only two Roman Catholics voted for me, one of them being a solicitor, Mr. Keogh. It was said at the time that he was recognized dressed as a shabby artisan, and busily engaged in breaking his own windows. He undoubtedly considered that he had a strong claim on the Government by reason of his martyrdom, and pressed it incessantly."

The other concerns a worthy who, in Sir William's words,

"requested me to procure him a Government situation, on the ground of having voted for me under thirteen different names."

At any rate, by hook or crook, the backer of Bloomsbury was returned to Parliament, welcomed as a hero on taking his seat, and

accepted, almost from the first, as an intimate friend by such political notabilities as Sir Robert Peel, Lord Lincoln (afterwards fifth Duke of Newcastle), the seventh Lord Strangford (whom, from his personal appearance, nobody would have suspected of being the lady-killer that Sir William declares him to have been), Sidney Herbert, Lord George Bentinck, and, above all, Mr. Disraeli, afterwards Lord Beaconsfield. Mr. Gregory was also taken up by the great ladies of society, and had the honour of being invited, in 1845, to the Queen's "celebrated Bal Poudré." He was, of course, introduced to the fashionable gambling clubs, Crockford's and the Coventry (which, though he does not tell us so, is understood to have been what is now the St. James's Club, and to have had among its members Napoleon III. in the days before the empire). In August, 1847, Parliament was dissolved, and Mr. Gregory, having made some good speeches and established some reputation, was defeated at Dublin, then betook himself to his own county of Galway, but saw good reason for retiring after he had been nominated and had delivered "a very telling speech at the court-house," and had nothing more to do with Parliament until 1857, when Lord Palmerston appealed to the country on the famous question of the Chinese *lorcha* Arrow. Mr. Gregory was "proclaimed duly the knight of the shire for the county of Galway," and continued to represent it to the end of the session of 1871. Meanwhile, in 1847, his father had died, "one of the victims of duty during that terrible time when fever followed famine"; and a most heart-breaking picture is drawn of the poor famine-stricken and fever-stricken people, whose

"skin seemed drawn tight like a drum to the face, which became covered with small light-coloured hairs like a gooseberry."

Of the period from 1847 to 1857 Gregory writes:—

"There was ten years' interregnum in my political life, six of which I would fain have blotted out. These six years were a time of struggle and humiliation, during which I abandoned society and public life for the turf only, during which I became deeply involved, chiefly through liabilities for friends, and during which I was forced to sell two-thirds of my ancestral estate."

But perhaps readers will not feel similar inclination to blot out the record, for it shows how strong a character he had who could pull himself together and extricate himself from a very slough of despond. Even he, however, would have been unequal to the task, most probably, but for the help of his excellent mother. Nor was she the only one of her sex to whom he was deeply indebted. To his two wives—Mrs. Bowdoin, a widow whom he married in January, 1872, and the present Lady Gregory (Miss Augusta Perse), whom he married in March, 1880—he owed much, as the readers of the autobiography will discover; and not a little, including his Governorship of Ceylon, to the celebrated Lady Waldegrave. For it is not only when mischief is made and careers are wrecked, but as often, and even oftener, perhaps, when harm is prevented and fallen fortunes are rehabilitated, that the searcher after the cause would do well to remember the cynic's injunction, "*Cherchez la femme.*"

Full as the book is, from first to last, of what is worthy of a more dignified appellation than entertainment, it contains no story more droll, with an intermixture of pathos, than that which is told about young Gregory, when he was at Harrow, under the celebrated scholar Benjamin Hall Kennedy, and won the "Latin Lyrics," whereupon the delighted master insisted upon taking the boy straight to pretty Mrs. Kennedy, and

"walked up and down the room, repeating aloud for the benefit of his wife, who did not understand a word, the passages he most approved of."

Nowadays, Mrs. Kennedy would very likely herself have been an ex-senior classic, and would have had a few criticisms of her own to offer.

Sir William Gregory's connexion with the National Gallery commenced in 1867, when he was appointed a trustee under circumstances highly creditable to Disraeli; and to quote a few of Sir William's observations as a guardian of the nation's artistic interests cannot be regarded as impertinent. In May, 1870, he wrote:—

"The Colonna Raffael was a few months ago one of the most perfect and important pictures of that master. In an evil moment it has been submitted to the cleaner.....I cannot say that I feel any great rapture about this picture..... At present it looks as if it had undergone the fate of St. Bartholomew and been thoroughly flayed, so that I hardly think even the great name of Raffael or its former reputation will induce a bold purchaser, public or private, to give the sum demanded for it, nothing less than 40,000*l.*"

On another page he writes:—

"I may mention in reference to the Peel pictures, to show what an excellent bargain was made by the Government, that in 1884, when the Trustees of the National Gallery were endeavouring to secure, but alas! in vain, some of the pre-eminently fine Rubenses from the Duke of Marlborough, Alfred Rothschild met me in St. James's Street, and said: 'If you think the Blenheim Rubenses are more important than your Dutch pictures to the Gallery, and that you cannot get the money from the Government, I am prepared to give you 250,000*l.* for the Peel pictures.'"

Finally, on the 15th of February, 1892, less than a month before his death, which occurred in London on the 6th of March, he wrote:—

"I am about to present to the Gallery my two Velasquez—'Sketch of a Duel in the Prado,' and 'Christ at the House of Martha and Mary.' They are, at least such is the judgment of *cognoscenti*, two excellent specimens of the master at two extreme periods. I think I mentioned that I meant to present my Jan Steen in monochrome, for which the French dealer, M. Ganchez, offered me 250*l.*, the day after I bought it for 2*l.* 3*s.* I also give my Savoldo."

The story of Sir William's labours on behalf of the British Museum occupies, of course, its proper place in the autobiography, of which a very interesting portion is contained in the pages (169-174 and 180-186) devoted to an account of travels in Tunis and in America.

Glimpses of the French Revolution. By John G. Alger. (Sampson Low & Co.) *Mémoires de Famille de l'Abbé Lambert.* Publiés pour la Société d'Histoire contemporaine par G. de Beauséjour. (Paris, Picard.)

IN marked contrast to bookmakers' verbiage is the style, almost too terse, in which Mr. Alger relates the result of his critically conducted researches in the byways of history. His opposition of some of his conclusions to those put forth by Carlyle has already been discussed in this journal, and we think successfully justified, though to make such an avowal wounds our feelings of reverence. The well-aimed stones Mr. Alger flings at that literary fop Lamartine it is easy to applaud heartily.

However, our object is to give some idea of the varied interest and amusing gossip contained in Mr. Alger's handy, well-printed, and unpretentious volume. For instance, to illustrate the procedure of the Revolutionary Tribunal, he adduces the experiences of one of the spendthrift *roués* of the Prince of Wales's court, Sir W. Codrington, whose career is sketched till September, 1793, found the disinherited baronet living near St. Malo. Then, arrested by Carrier, he was sent to Paris, imprisoned in the Conciergerie, charged with being an emissary of the English Government, and compromised by his possession of a manuscript copy of the letter addressed by the Marquis de Bouillé to the Assembly on his retreat to Luxembourg after the Varennes disaster. Still, after a preliminary examination, of which Mr. Alger prints the official record, Codrington was lucky enough to escape trial. Nevertheless he remained in captivity till the end of 1794, when he induced a printer to claim his services as a compositor, and on this pretext was released. Later he retired to Rennes. "His son, after Waterloo, received 23,000*l.* compensation out of the sum paid by France for indemnities to British subjects."

Next the Tribunal's complete process—examination, indictment, trial, conviction, and execution—is exemplified in the case of Count (or in England the Honourable) Arthur Dillon. But not content with summarizing the adventures and tragic end of that gallant soldier and political trimmer, Mr. Alger tells how the Dillon family, which had long been "as much French as British," had produced that mighty hunter and typical prelate of the old *régime*, the Archbishop of Narbonne, who with an income of 800,000 fr. "became bankrupt in 1789 for two millions," and who, being a refugee in England at the conclusion of the Concordat of 1801, "refused to obey the Pope's command to resign his see, and remained titular archbishop till his death in 1806." Nor was Count Arthur Dillon's own wife, Lucy Rothes, behind the age: she "became the mistress of the Prince de Guéméné, brother of the Cardinal de Rohan, of pearl [*sic*] necklace notoriety, and during Dillon's campaigns she and her paramour seem to have lived with the Archbishop Dillon, who himself was her mother's lover."

Anacharsis Cloots, and Théroigne de Méricourt, likened by C. Desmoulin to the Queen of Sheba, are among the many whose careers

seem to prove that hysteria—the diseased product of genius which Max Nordau regards as the peculiarity of our *fin de siècle*—was rife enough among the actors of the revolutionary period, who one and all showed themselves theatrical, self-conscious, and self-deceptive. To what, save the last characteristic, can we attribute Meyère's vehement declaration in December, 1793, that he was far from being a man of blood—Meyère, who six months later condemned to death in one day fifty-four victims, and who is described by Mr. Alger as "evidently an honest man"? Or Robespierre's conduct when in 1791 he pleaded in the Assembly for the abolition of capital punishment, supported on that occasion by Dupont, who, anticipating Prof. Lombroso, argued that murderers are only "des malades"?

A favourite conceit of the French Republic was to regard itself as the renovator of Greek and Roman traditions. The speeches of Robespierre and of Vergniaud were closely interlarded with allusions to the ancients. Charlotte Corday took her favourite Plutarch with her when, obedient to classical inspiration, she journeyed to Paris to slay Marat. "A trace of this classic turn still remains in the commonness of the name Jules." On the other hand,

"considering the analogy between 1648 and 1793, one is surprised at the rarity of appeals to English precedents.....The trial of Louis XVI., however, was clearly copied from our 1649. A French translation of Charles I.'s trial had been widely circulated in Paris in November, 1792."

Coming to the inevitable question of heredity, Mr. Alger cites numerous examples to show

"how the revolutionary leaders mostly left no issue; how the exceptions had descendants marked sometimes by insanity, but usually by mediocrity; and how the Revolution led to intellectual sterility and physical debility," for be it remembered

"the great writers of the first half of this century were almost without exception born some years before or after the Revolution."

"As for the mass of the children born in the height of the Revolution, they must have been the conscripts of Napoleon's later campaigns, the physical inferiority of whom was notorious."

We have always understood that the levies here referred to were largely composed of recruits under the legal age. However, semi-starvation is not productive of strength, and during the last decade of the eighteenth century dearth, joined to the depreciation of assignats, pressed heavily on the people. From a list of prices we recently came across, we find that at Verdun butter, formerly 12 sous per pound, cost during the Revolution 25 fr. In like manner turkeys rose from 2 fr. 10 sous to 30 fr.; sugar from 16 sous per pound to 4 fr.; coffee from 1 fr. to 6 fr. Wine had quintupled in cost, as also had grain. But, thanks probably to the "maximum" regulations or to increased skill in adulteration, bread had only risen threefold in price (Forbes's 'Letters from France, 1803-4,' vol. ii. pp. 240-1).

Nor were the consequences of such scarcity mitigated by the prudence of the housewives. Precursors of the emancipated female of the present generation, these female grenadiers, as Fabre d'Églantine styled them, were "eager listeners, talkers,

or demonstrationists at the sections, at the clubs, at the Convention itself." In vain did Chaumette, uttering for once words of wisdom, ask, "How long has it become decent for women to abandon the pious cares of their homes, the cradles of their infants, to appear in public squares, in tribunals, and at the bar of the Senate?" Olympe de Gouge was ready to argue that as "woman has the right of mounting the scaffold she should also have the right of mounting the tribune." From the statistics given by Mr. Alger, it appears that the largest slaughter of women occurred in the nine days preceding Robespierre's fall. During that period 283 men and 59 women, he tells us, were immolated. But if, as we surmise, the equality of the sexes was observed in the proportion of arrests to executions, it is hard to understand why Mr. Alger holds "that of the 8,000 persons still in prison in Paris when Robespierre fell, we may assume one-third to have been women." Again, by his assertion that "practically the infliction of capital punishment on women for political offences ceased, as it had commenced, with the Terror," he seems to ignore the women who, after the 18th Fructidor, were executed in 1797-8—women whose fate moved Bonaparte to public expressions of indignant wrath ('18 Fructidor,' par V. Pierre, pp. 434, 462-464).

Ben servire e non gradire was the fate of the estimable, but slightly pharisaical Abbé Lambert, confessor to the Duc de Penthièvre, and, after the death of the latter in 1793, almoner to his daughter the Duchesse d'Orléans, wife of Égalité. Not long did the Abbé enjoy peaceably at Bizy "the very handsome salary of 2,000 francs" allotted him by his patroness. When taking the oath to the Constitution, he modified it by reservations which the Convention pronounced inadmissible. To avoid arrest he fled in disguise from Normandy to the Jura, hoping to gain Switzerland. But at Lons-le-Saulnier he was seized and sent to Besançon with upwards of sixty fellow captives, including various bishops and priests, constitutional as well as non-juring. Why when on such journeys did not the prisoners give their small escort the slip? "Because," replies Mr. Alger, "France was one huge prison; escape would have been merely the beginning of danger." Not so thinks the Abbé, "but because terror had paralyzed courage, and we allowed ourselves to be led, though greatly superior in strength.....This observation is humiliating, and as a Frenchman I would willingly forget it." It contains the key to more than one enigma of that period.

At last the Abbé, finding himself destined for the guillotine, did summon the necessary courage, eluded his gaolers, and after many perils reached Switzerland. Over that country, the prosperity of which amazed him, were already dispersed from five to six thousand *émigré* priests. Details of the exemplary conduct of these men and of the manner in which they were supported, partly by their own small industries, but chiefly by the generosity of their Swiss hosts, form the main interest of M. Beauséjour's volume. Glimpses are also afforded of the penurious life led at Fribourg by the aged

Princesse de Conti, whose anxieties were increased by the fact of her having charge of her niece, Mlle. d'Orléans (Madame Adélaïde). Suspicion whispers to the reader that the Duchesse d'Orléans, housed in comparative comfort in Spain and protesting the bills of exchange drawn upon her by her children in Switzerland, was, thanks to Madame de Genlis, on indifferent terms with both her daughter and son; the latter was then earning 1,400 fr. a year as teacher in a school.

To effect a reconciliation between the Orleans and the Bourbon families, the Abbé travelled in 1798 to Russia to meet Louis XVIII., then at Mittau; but this confidential mission is treated with provoking, if discreet silence. "Our priests, sad to relate, have been better received and treated in Protestant than in Catholic countries," was the conclusion at which the Abbé arrived towards the end of his numerous wanderings. He finally retired to write these memoirs and finish his days near Barcelona, in the household of the Duchesse d'Orléans, to whom and to whose family he had been a most faithful servant. But she had now other advisers, and "Je ne trouvais pas près de la princesse le bonheur que j'avais espéré."

From Edinburgh to the Antarctic: an Artist's Notes and Sketches during the Dundee Antarctic Expedition of 1892-93. By W. G. Burn Murdoch. With a Chapter by W. S. Bruce, Naturalist of the Barque *Balæna*. (Longmans & Co.)

THE most obvious criticism on Mr. Burn Murdoch's amusing volume is that while it professes to be the narrative of a cruise to the Antarctic regions it contains very little about the Antarctic. The reader is treated to an endless series of facetious remarks on everybody and everything on board—which at times cross the narrow boundary between flippancy and mere vulgarity—strictures on the Scotch dialects and Dundee Sabatarianism, a long anecdote with illustrations of how the author and a friend went to Les Invalides, and a host of commonplace incidents which are familiar to any one who ever takes a sea voyage. There is also something about the South Polar seas, but not a great deal. This curious nautical counterpart of 'Hamlet' with the part of the hero omitted may be in some respects due to the author being an artist—although, to avoid the penalties attaching to a ship without a passenger licence carrying passengers, he "signed articles" as assistant surgeon—who knows his limitations, and still more to the circumstances of the voyage. For it was a whaling voyage without any whaling. A few years ago the threatened extinction of the Arctic whale led to the Dundee men seeking other hunting grounds. The Spitzbergen coast had long been deserted, and a summer in the "Old Greenland Sea," where the mysticete had formerly been slain in such prodigious numbers, was as apt to result in a "clean ship" as one in Davis Strait and Baffin's Bay. All the Arctic inlets not choked up with ice had been explored without the sight of "a fluke" to reward the enterprise of the ever diminishing number of whalers. Even the ocean north of Behring Strait, once the favourite haunt

of the Americans, was no longer so plentiful in "bowheads" as of old. Ships had, indeed, begun to winter off the Mackenzie River mouth in the hope of intercepting them in the course of a spring migration theoretically supposed to pass that point, though unfortunately practice failed to confirm this alluring hypothesis. But with the jute dressers of Tayside offering a high price for train oil and whalebone at 2,500*l.* per ton, the cetacean laden with such costly wares could not be permitted to escape its persistent enemies so long as the fate which befell the Biscayan "Sletbag" two centuries ago had not overtaken it. Then a remark of Sir James Ross to the effect that on his famous Antarctic voyage he had seen numbers of whales, which seemed identical with the *Balena mysticetus* of the North, disporting themselves in the vicinity of the South Polar ice, stimulated great expectations. Accordingly three Dundee ships and a Norwegian one—the Jason, equipped by Capt. Svend Foyn, of the Hammerfest fin-whaling establishment—determined to try their fortune in the heroic search for "bowheads," choosing, of course, our winter for penetrating the Antipodean Ocean. The announcement naturally created some stir, though an excitement entirely disproportionate to the nature of the voyage. From the talk which found its way into the newspapers one might have supposed the four whalers bound on exploring expeditions like those of Biscoe, Balleny, Ross, Wilkes, Weddell, or Heard in earlier days when the more accessible portions of "the Antarctic" were less known.

The shipowners were besieged by applications for passages by artists, naturalists, and sportsmen. One enthusiast—a clergyman—failing to apply in time, actually steamed as far as the Falklands in the hope of being able to share in what turned out to be a voyage of infinitely less interest than those made every year to the top of Baffin's Bay. The captains, it is needless saying, were bent on "fish," and had so little ardour for what had brought their passengers so far that, on the least sign of their giving play to their hobbies, the naturalists were reminded that "this is no a scientific expuadeation." The amazing thing is that anybody ever imagined that it was. Yet even the crew had picked up absurd stories about the Government and the Geographical Society subsidizing the venture, and refused on that account to ship except at wages proportionate to a voyage so richly endowed. As a matter of fact, the venture was an entire failure. The Dundee ships did not get any further than the New South Shetlands, near Joinville Land, and never managed to send their harpoons into a whale. Plenty of humpbacks, grampuses, rorquals, and other worthless species were seen, but not a single "bowhead." This species Mr. Burn Murdoch takes to be the *Balena mysticetus*. In reality it seems to be the *B. australis*, the blackfish of the spermaceti hunters. Yet it is not insinuated that Sir James Ross was mistaken in reporting the existence of the species. Indeed, the Jason is said to have seen one. But at all events, beyond a number of seals, the "Dundee Antarctic Expedition" had little to repay its projectors for their trouble and expense.

Nor were the scientific results much more appreciable. The Balena, Mr. Bruce tells

us in the very concise synopsis of the gains to knowledge from the cruise which he contributes to Mr. Murdoch's book, sighted some snow-covered land inferred not to have been seen before. This dreary coast the captain of the Jason succeeded in tracing more accurately, and he discovered "two active volcanoes," which he named the Jason and Sarssee. He also landed on the South Orkneys and Seymour Island, and from the latter brought several fossils of tertiary age. The Active made out that Joinville Land does not continue to Cape Fitzroy, but is separated from the land to the south (Dundee Island) by a strait (the Frith of Tay), through which she steamed. Beyond this, Mr. Murdoch's diary does not contain much of substantial value. However, his numerous graphic sketches enable the reader to grasp an idea of the every-day life of a ship on the border of the Antarctic ice. But from the lack of other material, seals and penguins constitute the most salient features of the natural history notes, unless, indeed, the small animals captured in the towing-net reward the assiduity of the specialists who have them in hand. There are also some useful, if rather inflated remarks about an Antarctic expedition in a volume well worth perusal, though it would have been all the better had it been reduced by one-half, and its somewhat exuberant humour considerably toned down. A careful revision will also suggest the correction of some blunders, as, for instance, that the Danish settlements are on "the south-east side" of Greenland, and that two Peterhead men spend the winter on "the east coast of the strait" (p. 131). It is also all but impossible that a narwhal was seen in the Antarctic seas (p. 209).

The Administration of the Marquis of Lansdowne, 1888-1894. By George W. Forrest, B.A. (Calcutta, Government Press.)

INTO a thin octavo volume of fewer than seventy pages Prof. G. W. Forrest has compressed a full, clear, and faithful summary of Lord Lansdowne's Indian administration from the close of 1888 to the beginning of 1894. As Director of Records to the Government of India, Mr. Forrest adds to his many other qualifications the special knowledge and experience which such a task demands. In reading this plain record of work done by Lord Lansdowne's Government during those five years, one feels tempted to smile at Mr. Forrest's reference to the luckless Senapati of Manipur as "a cruel scoundrel." The stories about this man differ curiously, and the policy which forced him into disastrous collision with the Indian Government is not particularly clear. If that Government "cannot tolerate anarchy," why did it seek to punish the man who had just put anarchy down? More light is needed upon all that wretched business in Manipur.

It is pleasanter to read of the full success which crowned the despatch, last autumn, of Sir Mortimer Durand's mission to Kabul. The credit of projecting the mission belongs to Lord Dufferin; but the Amir in 1888 had his hands full of more pressing matters, and it was not till last year that the project could be carried out. It is worth noting that no escort accompanied the mission save that

which the Amir himself provided. Everything seems to have gone smoothly, thanks to "the tact, patience, and sincerity" of Sir M. Durand. "The difficulties and misunderstandings of years have been removed, and our relations with Afghanistan have been put on the most satisfactory footing," especially with regard to frontier arrangements. Lord Lansdowne's dealings with the petty states and wild tribes along the Burman frontier seem also to have prospered in accordance with the policy of maintaining "spheres of influence" outside our regular frontiers—what Sir Alfred Lyall calls the "political frontier." That this policy is sometimes costly, as in the case of certain little wars beyond the Kashmir frontier, Sir Auckland Colvin's paper in the *Nineteenth Century* tends to show. It may be certain, as Lord Lansdowne holds, that "any spaces left vacant upon our Indian frontiers will be filled up by others, if we do not step in to fill them up ourselves"; but why must the burden of India's liabilities be increased at a moment when her fiscal resources are scarcely equal to her existing needs?

Among the legislative reforms effected by Lord Lansdowne's government were a Factory Act which reduced the hours of labour for women and children, and secured for every factory hand a weekly holiday; an Act greatly extending the old law against cruelty to animals; and an Act raising "the age of consent" from ten years to twelve. Against the opponents of the last-named measure the Viceroy insisted, as Bentinck and others had done before him, on the duty of a humane and civilized government to override in certain cases the claims and usages of any religious sect. In all such cases, he declared, "it is religion and not morality which must give way." What evils may arise from religious fanaticism was shown by the recent cow riots in several parts of India, when for three days Bombay was a prey to anarchy, and several lives were lost in Bengal and the North-West. Mr. Forrest supplies an excellent review of the steps by which an apparently harmless movement on behalf of the sacred cow developed into a series of violent outbreaks which had to be suppressed by force. After justice came conciliation. Committees of Hindu and Mohammedan leaders were formed to adjust their respective differences on the subject of kine, with results which have so far proved satisfactory.

It was owing mainly to the Marquis of Lansdowne that the right of discussing all financial questions and of interpellation upon other subjects was conceded after thirty years to his Legislative Council by the Councils Act of 1892. The same Act provided for the enlargement of all legislative councils with members appointed by various public bodies, official and non-official. The admission of natives to posts once reserved for covenanted civilians goes on steadily, ninety-three such posts having been thrown open in Lord Lansdowne's time. With regard to the jury question which lately agitated Bengal, and still remains unsettled, Mr. Forrest shows that the outcry against the local government was not based on a clear conception of the facts.

Lord Lansdowne's government helped to do away with the costly system, long

since become obsolete, of three separate armies, each under its own commander-in-chief. The three staff corps have also been merged into one. The number of "class regiments" has been increased, and recruiting from warlike classes encouraged; the moral and physical well-being of our soldiers, English and native, and their military efficiency, have been further developed; and Lord Dufferin's scheme of an Imperial Service Corps furnished by the feudatory states has been successfully carried out. The founding of an Imperial Library in Calcutta and the formation of an Imperial Record Office call for a word of passing eulogy. Not the least interesting pages of Mr. Forrest's summary are those which review the progress achieved during Lord Lansdowne's rule in agricultural experiments, in sanitary and medical processes, in the education of all classes, in railways and irrigation works, and in various other matters with which Anglo-Indian rulers have to concern themselves. On the subject of finance the record is far less satisfactory, owing mainly to the difficulties caused by the falling value of the rupee in respect of payments regulated by the price of gold. The present restriction of silver coinage in a poor country, where silver has always been the standard of value, is none the less an evil because necessity seems to demand it.

NEW NOVELS.

Kerrigan's Quality. By Jane Barlow. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

A NEW book from the author of 'Irish Idylls' is to a reviewer of novels like an oasis to a traveller in the wilderness. For although her works may not be exactly exhilarating, they are full of the quality of refreshment which springs from a sane and sympathetic observation of life. 'Kerrigan's Quality' may be described as the romance of a congested district; and as a means of enabling English readers to attain to a true comprehension of the Irish character, it is of more solid value than a thousand political speeches or pamphlets, and that although there is not a word about politics from beginning to end of the book. Miss Barlow has obviously studied the conditions of Irish peasant life on the sod, and re-creates those conditions in her story with most impressive fidelity. And if her sketches are in the main of a sombre tone, and void of all Donnybrook pleasantries, the homely dialogue of the peasants, which she reproduces with inimitable skill, is lit up with constant flashes of rich and characteristic humour, the effect of which is only accentuated by its juxtaposition with passages of genuine and unforced pathos. In other words, Miss Barlow simultaneously brings home to us the poverty and wretchedness of Irish life on the west coast as well as the temper which renders that poverty endurable. Her powers of characterization, though less convincing in dealing with gentle than simple types, are once more displayed with signal success, while the peculiar features of the Irish landscape are indicated with a vivid sense of the picturesque. A certain angularity and obscurity of style are occasionally observable in

the reflective passages, though in such cases the interest of the thought invariably redeems its imperfect expression. The tragic catastrophe may strike some readers as somewhat gratuitous; but as against these few flaws, the nobility of conception, the keen insight, and the tender sympathy which mark Miss Barlow's latest work combine to render it one of the most notable achievements in the fiction of the year.

David Pannell: a Study of Conscience. By Mrs. Alfred Marks. (Hutchinson & Co.)

'DAVID PANSELL' is a fine piece of work, as every faithful study must be fine, whether it amuses a large number of readers or not. David is the son of a Baptist minister who, in the words of the nearest rector, cobbled the souls of his congregation on Sundays and the soles of their boots on weekdays. He becomes an artist, and resides and studies in Italy—a development which we accept on the evidence of Mrs. Marks. A much better artist than himself dies, and bequeaths him a portfolio of drawings and colour-sketches; and in due course we find some of the dead man's work attributed to David Pannell. Then the play of conscience, or of character, comes in. It is enough to say that David is by no means wholly vile, and that his conscience is really somewhat ahead of his crime. There is a girl in the case, and there is "another," her cousin George Trevor. But it is the analytical element on which the interest of the story mainly rests. What Mrs. Marks has painted in her hero above all else is an insincere man, unequal to the effort of straightforwardness. The rector would have put it down to an exiguous training under the shadow of Bethesda.

A Son of Reuben. By Silas K. Hocking. (Warne & Co.)

If we might venture, we should like to hint to Mr. Hocking that he has a slight tendency to overwrite himself. We seem to be almost too frequently coming across new specimens of his work, not unaccompanied by signs of a conventional treatment, which is possibly due to haste, as he sometimes evinces distinct power and an eye for effect. In this book the main idea, though not novel, affords good material for the novelist, but Mr. Hocking has rather wasted his opportunity by a stiff and conventional treatment, and by insufficient care in rendering probable the character of the main personage. George Lister is made out to be a weak fool at first, and not a cad, as he suddenly shows himself on his first return to Neston. The other characters—except Hugh Sutcliffe, who is good as far as he goes—are mere lay figures, the common property of careless novelists. Grace, for example, has a smug propriety about her, Ethel an outrageous cynicism, and so on, which make them absolutely uninteresting to the reader. A word of protest must really be made against the illustrations. Mr. H. R. Steer's conception of "as sweet a picture of English womanhood as any one could desire," as shown in the frontispiece, is an outrage on any decent man's desires.

Love in Idleness. By F. Marion Crawford. (Macmillan & Co.)

It is really a pity that Mr. Crawford should waste his time on such trifling work as this story. It describes the course of love (perfectly obvious, indeed, from the beginning) between a shy and awkward young American and a downright and masculine young lady of the same nationality. The conversations, which form most of the book, are realistic in their inanity, but might have been left more to the imagination. This sort of thing, for example, becomes wearisome:—

"'I wonder when they'll get home,' said Fanny, after a long interval.

"'Are you anxious about them?' inquired the young man, with affected politeness.

"'Anxious? No, I was only wondering.'

"'I'm not very amusing, I know,' said Lawrence, grimly.

"'No, you're not,'"

—*et patata, et patati.* The villain of the piece is a flashy creature, whether Englishman or Canadian is left uncertain; and three old maids, presumably meant to be humorously pathetic, are almost cruel caricatures.

The Crimson Sign. By S. R. Keightley. (Hutchinson & Co.)

THE ULSTER Thermopylæ, the siege of Londonderry, is no bad subject for an historical novel, and Mr. Keightley possesses an excellent style, and is animated enough in the warlike passages of his book. The Puritan warrior, Ninian Macpherson (we are inclined to doubt the propriety of the name selected for the soldier of fortune: a Mackay or a Monro would more probably have gone to the continental wars), is the most carefully drawn of the characters. His death scene, in which his mind recurs to the tragedy which was the turning-point of his early life, is impressive; and the humanity of which he gives proof in his relations with his young comrade Gervase Orme and with Dorothy Carew, the lady that hero adores, forms an excellent contrast to his narrow creed and the hardness of his warlike fanaticism.

The Intended. By H. de Vere Stacpoole. (Bentley & Son.)

THERE are queer books going about the world just now; 'The Intended' belongs to the number, but why it should be called 'The Intended' it is difficult to see. It is more or less concerned with unpleasant incidents disagreeably presented. In places it is lurid and exciting enough. There is some originality and cleverness in the central idea, but the writing leaves something to be desired. The wicked man who, in his "cups," "retrogrades" to a lower type is decidedly objectionable, and, in fact, is becoming a bore both to readers and critics. We forget how many cases of this kind we have met with in fiction within the year, but the number is by no means trifling. "Mammy" the muletress and "Madam" are mysterious and at times effective. This highly improbable story is not quite like other highly improbable stories: one finishes it; for amongst its good points are brevity and excellent print.

FAIRY TALES.

The Yellow Fairy Book. Edited by Andrew Lang. (Longmans & Co.)—In the preface to this attractive book Mr. Lang gives an amusing account of a gentle rebuke administered at the annual meeting by the learned president of the Folk-lore Society to two erring members. These were Messrs. Lang and Jacobs, who publish "fairy tales with pretty pictures." Possibly this slight admonition referred to was really prompted by the fact that in the series of volumes which take their names from colours—this time the colour is, as we suggested from a sense of what is due to a primary colour, 'The Yellow Fairy Book'—false fairy tales are treated with as much respect as true ones. From a folk-lore point of view there is certainly something in the objection; but surely sufficient unto the folk-lorists are the books which are specially addressed to them—this is dedicated "to Joan, Toddlers, and Tiny." Anyhow, if harm is seen in it, Mr. Lang expresses his readiness to "put himself on his country, and be tried by a jury of children"; and we are sure that he would be triumphantly acquitted. It is true that one or two stories which Grimm would possibly have condemned as mere fanciful creations find a place in 'The Yellow Fairy Book,' but children like fancy, and are not greatly concerned with folk-lore. The illustrations are excellent, and add much to the interest of the book.

The Golden Fairy Book. (Hutchinson & Co.)—It is a difficult task to get together a collection of fairy tales of which the ordinary story-loving child does not already know the greater number almost by heart. In 'The Golden Fairy Book' this difficulty has to a great extent been overcome. The compiler has—as compilers so often do—not gone into the highways and compelled Bluebeard, Cinderella, and Red Riding Hood to come in for the many hundredth time to test the endurance of a long established affection, but into the byways, and one result is that we find the bugbear of our forefathers, Voltaire, writing for the instruction and amusement of youth, some of Zadig's adventures being given as a fairy tale. Dumas, too, appears as the author of 'The Enchanted Whistle'; but let those who are disposed to regret that he should even temporarily have diverted his attention from a task which he performed better than any other man—that of amusing children of a larger growth—take comfort, for he wasted no invention on the story to which his name is appended, having taken nearly the whole of it either from the 'Kinder- und Hausmärchen' or from Wackernagel. There are, however, many very good stories in this book which will be new to most readers, and even if not new it will be a pleasure to read George Sand's 'Fairy Dust.'

A Book of Fairy Tales. Retold by S. Baring-Gould. (Methuen & Co.)—The number of books which set before us good old fairy tales graced or disgraced by touches from the compiler's hand is becoming too large. The hierarchs of folk-lore should straightway meet in conclave and decide which form of each of these tales shall be recognized as the authorized version, after which it should be a misdemeanour to publish any other. To our mind it is a grave misdemeanour to seize on the classics of fairy-lore and rewrite and alter them, and this is what Mr. Baring-Gould has done. "What I have done," he says (speaking of these particular stories), "is to rewrite some of them—I may say most of them—simply, and to eliminate the grandiloquent language which has clung to some of them, and has not been shaken off." This is not a good sentence, for if the grandiloquence has clung it has not been shaken off, and we cannot help thinking that it would be extremely difficult to improve on Perrault's simple and direct method of narration, and that a writer who talks of eliminating grandiloquence is more likely to introduce than to remove it. Of course if Mr. Baring-Gould had not rewritten

these stories this book would have lost its only excuse for existence; but it might just as well not have existed, for with the exception of perhaps two stories, everything that it contains is to be found already in children's libraries, if not in one collection, in another, and assuredly in a better form. Besides this, Mr. Baring-Gould has not so much eliminated what is grandiloquent, or rather florid, as added to it. In Madame d'Aulnoy's 'Fair One with the Golden Locks' there is a description of the princess which Mr. Planché thus translated:—

"Her locks were like the finest gold, marvellously bright and falling all in ringlets to her feet. She always appeared with her hair flowing in curls about her, crowned with flowers, and her dresses embroidered with diamonds and pearls."

Mr. Baring-Gould writes:—

"Her hair was like the finest gold, and waved and rippled down her back and reached the ground, and she was called the fair maid with golden locks. She always wore a crown of China roses on her head, and dresses of the softest and palest pink, or blue or white [we wonder he did not say Liberty silk], embroidered over with diamonds; so that wherever she went and whenever she moved she twinkled like a laburnum bush covered with dew on a May morning."

It is not without regret that we find the Marquis of Carabas changed into the Marquess, or without pain that we find Puss—in 'Puss in Boots'—declining to partake of anything stronger than milk as "on principle he was a teetotaller"; and no one can deny that Perrault dresses Cinderella's eldest sister much more prettily for the ball than Mr. Baring-Gould:—

"Moy," dit l'aînée, 'je mettray mon habit de velours rouge et ma garniture d'Angleterre.'

"For my part," writes Mr. Baring-Gould (and he seems to have been copying the style of dress of the immortal Mrs. Cornelius O'Dowd), "I will wear red velvet and lace, and a turban of red and yellow with an ostrich feather."

In 'Beauty and the Beast' Mr. Baring-Gould surpasses himself. When Beauty arrived with her father at the Beast's castle, expecting before long to coldly, or perhaps warmly, furnish forth a banquet for the Beast, she was comforted by the words:—

"I will not eat you—my food is only crystallised rose and violet leaves. I eat nothing more solid or less æsthetic."

Her life was spared, but she was dull.

"Please, Beast, can you play and sing?" she asked, and being answered in the affirmative, she said, "Would you play and sing with me sometimes?" "Certainly, Beauty, if you wish it." Next day when she entered the music-room, the Beast was there, and she found that not only could he play very charmingly on many instruments, but also could sing a rich bass.

The next thing was that she asked him to choose her a book to read, and he not only did that, but read with her and explained all the difficult passages. A day later he gave her a lesson in botany, and soon she found that to love him was a liberal education, and did love him. "Will you kiss me on my snout?" asked the Beast, when informed of the state of her affections. "Indeed, indeed I will," answered Beauty, whereupon all around her turned to jewels, except the Beast, who turned, of course, into a prince.

The Real Princess. By Blanche Atkinson. (Innes & Co.)—Several of the stories told by Miss Atkinson are good and readable. They would be more fairy-like if they were unaccompanied by a moral; but the moral is very prettily and unobtrusively set before juvenile readers, and we believe juvenile readers will be numerous.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

A History of the Christian Church during the First Six Centuries. By S. Cheetham, D.D. (Macmillan & Co.)—The point of view which Archdeacon Cheetham has adopted in this history is seen very distinctly in his statement of the conception of the Church which he

believes to have prevailed in the second and third centuries. "It is," he says, "the guardian of the truth committed to it, and the bestower of grace through the Word and Sacraments which Christ ordained. The ministry is divinely instituted as a continuation of the apostolic office. It is the Church under the guidance of the successors of the Apostles which is recognized as the Apostolic Church: it is the whole congregation of Christian people dispersed throughout the world which is recognized as Catholic. To belong to the Catholic Church is not only to hold the true faith, but to be a member of that great and unique organization to which its Lord has given exceeding great and precious privileges and promises. To be outside this organization, to be disowned by it, is the last and most fatal of penalties."

To those who accept this view of the Church the work ought to be exceedingly welcome. It is by far the best text-book of the subject which has yet appeared in our language, for the writer has evidently studied the subject thoroughly. He has mastered both ancient and recent authorities, and he shows judgment and fairness in noting the books which are most likely to be useful. Though there are many opinions in the book which are open to question, yet the Archdeacon always furnishes the means by which these opinions can be tested. A tendency is shown to adopt suggestions made by Lightfoot or Hort and other Anglican theologians, as in the case of the identity of the author of the Epistle of Clement and the date of the martyrdom of Justin, though these are based on insufficient evidence and have been generally rejected. But the author puts his conclusions mildly, and the reader can see that other opinions have prevailed.

The Church in France (Wells Gardner & Co.), Canon Travers Smith's contribution to "The National Churches" series, is a difficult book to review, for the reason that it is impossible to criticize by a high standard a small volume which essays to deal with a subject so tremendous and so full of controversial difficulties at every turn as the history of the Gallican Church. In this age of handbooks, writers have acquired a certain aptitude in turning out monographs on more or less celebrated persons. But whereas a few months' study will qualify a fluent penman to fashion a fairly accurate biography of any hero, famous or obscure, a satisfactory manual on a vast subject like that of the Church in France could only be produced by a student who had devoted a lifetime to it, as an abridgment of a greater work. Dr. Travers Smith modestly disclaims all title to original research, and cites the authorities to whom he is chiefly indebted. Had he adopted the system of M. Taine, whose last treatise he makes much use of, in giving more copious references in foot-notes, the volume might have had considerable value to readers who used it as a preliminary guide-book to profounder studies. Here and there we find internal evidence that the writer is an Irishman, as, for instance, when he couples the "miracles" of Lourdes with those of Knock, or when he refers to the Ulster "revival," a religious movement the mention of which does not convey much to the un-Hibernian mind; but considering that the author is an Irish Protestant clergyman, and that his subject is the Roman Catholic Church, the general tone of his writing is beyond all praise. The last chapter, on the Church in the nineteenth century, is couched in too polemical a form, though it is not written from the narrow point of view of Irish Protestantism; moreover, 26 pages in a volume of nearly 500 is but scant space to devote to the history of the Church in France since the establishment of Napoleon's Concordat, covering a period full of varying interest. However, the principal fault of a handbook made to order is nearly always that of disproportion. We could, for instance, have spared the pages devoted to the "peculiar usages" of the early Church in Ireland for a rather less perfunctory account of Cîteaux; or if "the Irish Columbanus" had been dismissed with the line spared for St. Bruno, there might have been room for some information about the

founder of La Grande Chartreuse. Canon Smith, again, is not very familiar with the work of St. François de Sales. He says "it lay in Geneva," a statement which, standing alone, gives to the uninformed, for whom handbooks are written, the misleading impression that the scene of his labours was that part of Europe now included in Switzerland. As a matter of fact the actual city of Geneva retained little trace of his influence, and the most lasting work of St. François was effected in the country now annexed to France—not only at Annecy, which is mentioned in connexion with Madame de Chantal, but especially in the Chablais, the re-conversion of which region was possibly the chief achievement of the Savoyard saint. The index attached to this volume is the most incomplete we have ever been baffled with, and the ecclesiastical maps of France are somewhat inaccurate as well as incomplete.

In *A Forgotten Great Englishman* (Religious Tract Society) Mr. James Baker states a grievance against his countrymen for losing sight of Dr. Peter Payne, the Wycliffite, who migrated from Oxford to Prague in 1417, and was a prominent figure amongst the "Taborite" and "Orphan" Hussites for nearly forty years. "If in England this great man is forgotten, in Bohemia his name is cherished; and her historians give him ample space, and her people of to-day know his name." Mr. Baker devotes over five-and-twenty pages to a "Proof that he was forgotten," and in support of this almost unnecessary affirmation he tells us that "all the accepted and generally read histories of Hume, Green, Lingard, Knight, &c., were searched," and that Prof. Rowley, Mr. Leslie Stephen, Prof. Froude, Dr. Percival, Mr. Gladstone, Prof. Freeman, the Bodleian Librarian, and other persons more or less likely than these to know anything about the matter, were successively consulted, with very meagre results. Most of them had to confess that they had never heard of Peter Payne; but it is evident from Mr. Baker's ingenious account of his researches that Dr. Freeman gave him all the aid that was possible, and even a little more information than he could digest. Mr. Baker does not seem to have deciphered the professor's handwriting, or to be familiar with the vocabulary of Mr. Lewis Carroll, for he makes this doubtful and doubting quotation from Dr. Freeman's reply: "I have a certain yearning to the men of Bene (*sic*), that I sometimes go so far as to call them Boemish (*sic*) boys, because I take a good deal of interest in them now, and in their claim as a separate kingdom." However, the professor passed his inquirer on to Mr. R. L. Poole, and Mr. Poole passed him on to Anthony Wood, with other authorities for the life of this Anglo-Bohemian worthy. Mr. Baker has been very industrious in collecting all that he could discover about Peter Payne, sketching his life and work mainly as they stand recorded in the pages of Palacky's 'History of Bohemia.' The work was worth doing, and it deserves the thanks of historical students. Payne fought ably for religious liberty in the interval which separated the death of Wyclif from the birth of Luther, and Englishmen owe him a fuller expression of gratitude than he has hitherto received. The fact is that Payne was looked upon by Roman Catholic writers in the fifteenth and succeeding centuries as not only a pestilent heretic, but also a forger. He was accused of stealing or misusing the University seal, in order to give weight to a spurious testimonial to Wyclif from the Chancellor and Masters in 1406. Mr. Maxwell Lyte probably puts the true colour on both the charge and the transaction in his history of the University. The judgment of to-day in regard to such a charge against such a man is more likely to be just than the inevitably prejudiced opinion of Gascoigne and Cochlæus.

Saint Michael the Archangel: Three Encomiums by Theodosius, Archbishop of Alexandria, Severus,

Patriarch of Antioch, and Eustathius, Bishop of Trake. The Coptic Texts, with Extracts from Arabic and Ethiopic Versions. Edited, with a Translation, by E. A. Wallace Budge, Litt.D. (Kegan Paul & Co.)—The Copts have several well-established claims to attention. Their language is the language of ancient Egypt, they possess a considerable literature, and they adopted Christianity at a very early period. According to tradition, St. Mark was the Apostle who converted them from their heathenish faith to the doctrine of Christ; but however that may have been, it is certain that a knowledge of the Gospel was disseminated among them either in the first or second century. Since then they have maintained the broad outlines of the faith, disfigured, it is true, by strange superstitions and occasional lapses towards the worship of many gods. The Abyssinian expedition gave an impetus to the study of Coptic, and was instrumental in bringing large numbers of MSS. to this country. But collections had been made before that time, and of these the largest and incomparably the most valuable was that brought together by Mr. Curzon, afterwards Lord Zouche, whose library is now in the possession of his son. With rare disinterestedness the present Lord Zouche has placed its contents at the disposal of the British Museum for the use of students, and it is a MS. from this collection which is now for the first time made available for English readers. In the preface it is stated that its publication is due to the munificence of Lord Bute. Unfortunately in this country Oriental literature finds but a scanty support. Few Englishmen trouble themselves to learn languages which embalm the thoughts and imaginings of many of the deepest and most brilliant thinkers whom the world has known, and not many deem it worth while to study the writings of these sages, even when presented in an English form. Hence it arises that Oriental scholars find it impossible to publish texts and translations except at their own expense, or by the enlightened munificence of a scholar such as Lord Bute. It is not always, however, that with every good intention a wealthy patron of Oriental literature can find the right man with the necessary leisure and zeal to act as editor. In the present case Lord Bute has been fortunate, for Mr. Budge is a trained Orientalist, and the volume is evidence of his wide knowledge and deep erudition. An acquaintance with Coptic alone among Eastern tongues is sufficient to entitle a man to rank as an Orientalist, but here we have versions in three languages—Coptic, Arabic, and Ethiopic—all edited with the same care and scholarship. The body of the work consists of three encomiums pronounced on the miraculous powers of St. Michael the Archangel. These utterances date from the sixth century, and are extremely interesting as illustrating the religious condition of the minds of the Copts at that period. The first encomiast—Theodosius, Archbishop of Alexandria—considered that "Michael is, after Christ, the chief of those who feast in the palace of the heavenly kingdom," where he sits surrounded by a host of patriarchs and saints, beginning with Adam, and ending with John the Baptist, the twelve Apostles, and numerous saints and martyrs. Theodosius submits all these holy men to a catechism on the merits of Michael, and with one consent they each proclaim some mighty act of the Archangel. Noah asserts that he guided the Ark over the surface of the waters; Jacob, that he fixed his wages in Mesopotamia; Hezekiah, that he slew 185,000 Assyrians in one night, to the infinite relief of "the just king"; and so on to the end of the list. Severus, the second panegyrist, is content with an earthly witness of the powers of the saint, and instances the case of Ketsón, a rich merchant of Entiké, who on embracing Christianity was defended by Michael from all the assaults of the devil. Many were the disguises in which the arch fiend appeared, but in each and all he was combated and de-

feated by Michael, who constantly descended in the flesh, to Satan's complete discomfiture. So notorious did these miracles become that the Emperor Constantine sent the Archbishop of Ephesus to baptize the people of Entiké. In obedience to his orders the archbishop set out, having taken the precaution of providing himself with "two deacons, an elder, a reader, three singers of Psalms, and twelve other men, and they took with them an altar, altar coverings, sacramental vessels, books, and everything that was necessary for the founding of a church." A speedy use was found for all these persons and things, for in sixteen days a church was built, and the inhabitants of the town were baptized *en bloc*. The third encomium is concerned with the temptations which befell "the noble lady Euphemia, the wife of Aristarchus," who, when he died, left his widow in the charge of Michael. With subtle allurements, one of which was the offer of an illustrious second husband, the devil attempted to undermine her faith and to put a stop to her deeds of charity, in which she delighted. Over all these enticements Euphemia rose triumphant by virtue of a wooden tablet bearing a portrait of St. Michael. With this eikón she shamed the devil, and dispersed the mists of doubt and evil with which he surrounded her. On her death-bed she reaped the reward of her constancy, for her eyes were no sooner closed than "there was a sound like the roaring of a cataract, and all present in the chamber saw the Archangel appear in great glory, and take the soul of Euphemia and lay it in his shining apparel, and bear it up to heaven, while the sound of a multitude was heard singing, 'God knoweth the way of the righteous, and their inheritance shall abide for ever.'" After this manifestation the eikón disappeared, and was eventually found hanging in mid air in the apex of the church, where it remained as firm as "a pillar of adamant!"

Brendamiana: St. Brendan the Voyager in Story and Legend. By the Rev. Denis O'Donoghue, P.P. (Dublin, Browne & Nolan).—Father O'Donoghue prints the Irish text of the life of St. Brendan, as far as it goes, with an English translation on the opposite page; this he follows up by a translation of the well-known Latin 'Voyage' of the Saint, and of the later part of the Latin life, for which no Irish original is forthcoming. Of the latter two he has not thought it necessary to reprint the original. These narratives form the kernel of a book which, as might be fairly expected from the title, is a discursive collection of notes on "Matters Brendanian" and on the local lore of Adfert. It will be found interesting not only by students of Irish hagiography, but also by a larger circle of readers who care for the old legends of the island. Father O'Donoghue writes on a subject which he has at heart, and he writes with knowledge; criticism comes less naturally to him, and he is loth to surrender the historical basis of the famous voyage. To those who wish to supplement the father's materials with a commentary and criticism resting on a wider comparison of data, and informed by a more inquiring spirit, we commend the excellent lecture on 'Brendan's Fabulous Voyage' by the Marquess of Bute, which was published in the *Scottish Review* for April, 1893. Lord Bute's translations, we may add, are of a far higher literary finish than those of Father O'Donoghue, though the latter are usually correct and always readable.

STORIES OF ADVENTURE.

The Curse of Clement Waynflete: a Tale of Two Wars. By Bertram Mitford. (Ward, Lock & Bowden).—Mr. Mitford revels in South African adventures, which he always makes lively and exciting, if not by relating what is or might be, then by drawing on his imagination for the improbable or the impossible. One of the heroes of the story under notice, "with the

torso of a Milo" concealed in a British uniform, and "the head and face of an ideal Viking," survives a thousand dangers amidst implacable savages. So does his cousin, son of Clement the curser. No black or brown man is permitted by Mr. Mitford to take the life of these two gallant English gentlemen—the author will work a hundred miracles first. True, there is an Englishman's curse to be fulfilled; but no Kafir "nigger" is to have the honour of giving effect to it. Jest apart—for Mr. Mitford is entitled to spin his yarns in his own way—"The Curse of Clement Waynflete" is as interesting as it is sanguinary and sensational.

Renshaw Fanning's Quest: a Tale of the High Veldt. (Chatto & Windus.)—This is another of Mr. Mitford's African stories of wild adventure and marvellous survivals. A monstrous diamond is the object of Renshaw Fanning's quest; but the land all round about the famous stone swarms with Kafirs, Hottentots, Bastards, Korannas, Bushmen—we merely take the names at random from Mr. Mitford's pages—and the author contrives to make things very lively all round. The narrative is entertaining enough to amuse both young and old.

MR. HUME NISBET writes well about Australia, but he is evidently not so well acquainted with India and Afghanistan. The consequence is that the geography in *A Desert Bride: a Story of Adventure in India and Persia* (White & Co.) is vague and almost impossible, while the author's conception of an Afghan prince of the Mutiny time is ludicrously at variance with facts. This prince is represented as the very mirror of chivalry, a sort of King Arthur come to life again, entertaining quite a knightly respect for women. He is a perfect paladin with a Bayard's hatred for and contempt of firearms. "This Moslem type of perfect chivalry, who boasted that he had never taken a foeman at a disadvantage," declares, "If my foeman has a tulwar, I use only a tulwar and place my trust in Allah; but if he has a gun I rush on him and take the coward weapon from him, and then kick him out of my way if he cannot use his steel." Those most intimately acquainted with Afghanistan have never mentioned such a hero. Indeed, all that they have said and written tends to show that, brave as the Afghans are, they consider it the height of folly to neglect any opportunity of circumventing a foe and taking him at a disadvantage. Again, Mr. Nisbet's prince calmly discusses his wife with a stranger, although for even a friend to refer to an Afghan's wife, save by a circumlocution, would be deemed an insult. One of the two boy adventurers who are the heroes of this tale is hailed by the prince in Pukhtoo, whereupon he replies to this unknown tongue in Hindustani! In fact, the story, though full of exciting adventure, is equally full of unnecessary improbabilities and inaccuracies. One wild adventure is, however, not improbable, and that is the attempt of Thugs to strangle our heroes on their way from Kashmir.

THE author of 'Tales of the Caliph' is again happy in his title, *Romances of the Old Seraglio* (Chatto & Windus). Nothing could be more suggestive of mystery and intrigue, love and jealousy, "treasons, stratagems, and spoils," and the reader is perfectly prepared for the characteristically Oriental adventures with which Mr. H. N. Crellin has justified his title. On the scene appear the inevitable barber who becomes vezir; the ambitious "odalisk" (as we call her in fiction) who cuts off the wrong man's head in the gloomy gateway called the Bâb es-Selâm, and gets very literally sacked in the Bosphorus in consequence; the minister who plays chess with the Sultan for the stake of his own life; the jewel treasury with the revolving stone in its masonry wall; and all the usual machinery of such tales. Of course the 'Romances' are all imaginary, for it would be indeed a clever sort of

secret that should escape from the Seraglio, and Mr. Crellin makes no pretence of authenticity. "No chronicle," he confesses, "preserves the weird and tragic stories of the Old Seraglio; only Imagination paints her fanciful and vivid pictures of that which never was and yet which might have been." We are not so sure about the "might have been," for some of the incidents in these romances would be impossible in Turkish society—of which, indeed, the author evidently knows nothing at first hand. He has picked up a certain superficial air of authority, chiefly by using the right (and sometimes the wrong) Turkish names for sundry officers, divisions, and courts in the Seraglio; these he has apparently obtained by studying Mr. E. J. Gibb's chapters on "Stambol" and the "Ottoman Administration" in Mr. Lane-Poole's 'Turkey' ("Story of the Nations"). He makes a good many slips, however, and once he wanders free of his authority he stumbles straight into a morass. For example, he has characters called Murad and Amurath and Mourad, but does not know that these are all the same Turkish name; he uses Damad as though it were a proper name, instead of what it is, a prefix indicating a brother-in-law of the Sultan. Sometimes he gets a name or title through a German source, which makes him write Kiaja for Kiahya. He invents imaginary Sultans—but there is no objection to that in a book which does not pretend to be history. Only let no one fancy he has here a true picture of Osmanli manners or history in the days of the Old Seraglio. Presumably the 'Romances' bear a certain relation to the Christmas book trade; and we are curious to learn whether this attempt to revive the public interest in an old-fashioned type of story will prove successful. It has not the advantages of some of its older models; it is not instinct with the spirit of the East, as 'Vathek' is, or written in an Oriental style. The characters talk modern English blended with the Turkish of the Drury Lane stage. It has no special merits in dialogue or description, and very little humour. It belongs to a certain type of pseudo-Oriental fiction which we had imagined to have lost its audience. Whether this is so remains to be seen. The tales, as such, are not particularly original, and we fancy their success will depend to some extent upon a vague (but erroneous) impression that they are founded on fact. Mr. Stanley Wood's illustrations are always spirited, and he has taken some pains over his Oriental costumes; but the unveiled woman riding through the streets, in his frontispiece, is an impossibility, and he might have studied the present picturesque scenery of Seraglio Point, and added some "local colour" to his landscape.

BOOKS ON ITALIAN HISTORY.

THE new volume in the "Story of the Nations" series, *Venice*, by Alethea Wiel (Fisher Unwin), is a clear, and in some parts detailed, account of the rise and fall of the great republic, and should be of much use to those desiring a superficial knowledge of the military, political, and commercial affairs of Venice. The earlier part of the book is rather a chronicle of names and bald mention of facts in the order in which they occurred than a description of the city and her people—an even recital that does not stir our interest as it might, or reflect by its word-painting that romance and that half-legendary brilliant life of poetry and action of which the new history indeed speaks, but into which it fails to fully carry the reader. The second half of the book is far fuller of light and shade, of interest and vivid description, and many lives and actions are told in detail, though several important events, of a picturesqueness likely to impress them on the memory, are passed over with a mere mention, or perfunctory description of the shortest possible nature; as, for instance, the marriage of Duke Orseolo's son in 1004, and the contrast of the sudden change from joy to

sorrow which followed immediately afterwards with the plague, and the heroic and pathetic figure of "blind old Dandolo" setting out for the fourth Crusade. In a book purporting to be a history of the republic it is, perhaps, hardly fair to expect special attention or space to be devoted to individuals; for whereas Florence derives her brightest glory from the distinctive works of her famous children, Venice was at her greatest when the whole community were of one mind and one soul in one undertaking, and when each man was content to sink his own individuality in the name of Venetian, and devote his labours to the general welfare of the State; yet there are many names that stand out in brilliant prominence from the rest, whose influence for good or bad was of the utmost importance to the city, and any one of which would form a history or romance in itself. To the arts of painting and architecture, which have been Venice's chief attraction almost since the Middle Ages, barely a dozen pages are devoted; even Petrarch is only mentioned in connexion with his political mission and the gift of his library to the city. The book is illustrated by engravings and reproductions from photographs, and contains also three maps. As a means of obtaining a clear general idea of the history of the City in the Sea, and as a good foundation for a more detailed study of the wonderful story which tradition and history have woven around her, Madame Wiel's book will prove of considerable service. She has borrowed largely from Mr. Horatio Brown; but very likely he will forgive her.

THE Countess Evelyn Martinengo Cesaresco is an enthusiastic believer in Italian unity, and has told, with unalloyed enthusiasm, the story of the *risorgimento*—one of the most fascinating of tales, the only piece of real romance that has enlivened European history since Waterloo. The Countess's narrative, *The Liberation of Italy, 1815-70* (Seeley), furnishes in every particular a contrast to the Chevalier O'Clery's 'Making of Italy,' which we reviewed between two and three years ago, and probably the truth lies somewhere between the two versions—nearer to the Countess's side, however, than the Chevalier's. It is a pity she cites no authorities whatever for her statements, and sometimes her assertions—as when she tells him that Austria refused to make an alliance with Napoleon III. unless he allowed the Italians to occupy Rome—make the reader think that some of that folk-lore of which she is a distinguished student has found its way into her history. Austria certainly made an alliance with France in 1870, and when the war was declared, repudiated her obligations. However that may be, the generous sympathy of the author with freedom and with Italy awakens kindred sentiments in the reader. An English lady married to an Italian of ancient and distinguished lineage, she has adopted the feelings and aspirations of those among whom she lives; the only pity is that she has acquired the bitter Gallophobia too common in Italy; and although she admits the heroic valour with which the French stormed Solferino, she seldom omits an opportunity to disparage France and Frenchmen: and belittle their services to the cause of Italian unity. This is observable from the first chapter, where she underrates the influence of Napoleon I. in Italy and the great things he achieved, which make the Italian peasant to this day remember his name. To continue fault-finding, we should say that our author somewhat forgets that except in Sicily the peasantry showed little sympathy with the revolution. On the Volturno the peasantry murdered and wounded any Garibaldian they got hold of, and, as she mentions, in the Abruzzi they rose in arms to oppose Cialdini's entrance. In fact, even in North Italy the revolution was mainly the work of the towns, and met with little support from the tillers of the soil, as the French found to their surprise in Lombardy. In conclu-

sion, we can recommend the reading of this book in spite of its defects, for the author notes things that escape the ordinary English compiler; for instance, the curious fact, quite intelligible to those who know Piedmont, that Cavour spoke much better French than he did Italian.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

By way of apology for *Sir Philip Sidney, Servant of God* (Blackwood & Sons), a tract or pamphlet of 111 pages, issued as a showy volume, Mrs. A. M. Stoddart says that "if boys and girls in Sidney's England will learn from its pages that obedience to the will of God alone can mould a life into immortal example, she will reap a rich reward." But she leaves it open to question whether the recompense she desires is the profit of her would-be pupils or her own gains through the sale of a book compiled from one of "worthier biographies" with which, she avers, "her object is in no way to compete." Taking the more charitable view, we fear the book may not prove a success. Though the story of Sir Philip Sidney's life has been garbled for the purpose, there is nothing convincing in the way in which the proposed lesson is offered. Indeed, the account here given of Sidney, instead of exhibiting him as an ideal "servant of God," makes him out to have been by no means so good a Christian as we may reasonably suppose that he was. Though Mrs. Stoddart has read a few books about "Sidney's England," she evidently does not understand it. She imports the "goody-goodness" of an orthodox nineteenth century Sunday-school into the temper and language of the men who took part in the rough struggle between the Puritans and the Papists of the sixteenth century, and in the pious words used, doubtless quite honestly, by Sidney or about him she finds proof that he was a sort of Elizabethan Capt. Hedley Vickers. Had a detailed biography of Sidney's uncle, the Earl of Leicester, been at hand from which to borrow so much as suited her, she might have represented his life also as "moulded into immortal example" by "obedience to the will of God." Of Penshurst, if not of other haunts of Sidney, Mrs. Stoddart has seen enough to enable her to describe them. By dipping into Arthur Collins's 'Letters and Memorials of State' or some other volumes containing Sidney correspondence in the original spelling, moreover, she has qualified herself to give an antiquarian colour to her copying of such words as "virtuous lyf" and "emptie ad- vyses"; but she has not gone far in her quest of material. As she frankly acknowledges "her great indebtedness to the researches made by Mr. Fox Bourne," that writer would have had small ground for complaint had her bald epitomizing of his statements been correct. By repeating with altered phraseology information obtained at second hand, however—yet more by omitting or distorting facts not in agreement with her theories, and by inventing details in the hope of rendering her narrative picturesque—she has produced a sham biography which can be acceptable to no one who cares that the truth about Sidney should be known. There is much more historical accuracy in Mrs. Marshall's pretty story-book 'Penshurst Castle in the Time of Sir Philip Sidney,' which was published a year ago, than in Mrs. Stoddart's thin volume. Mrs. Huggins's four sketches of Penshurst and copy of Zuccheri's portrait (not here announced as a copy, and advertised as a "new portrait") are creditable.

Pomona's Travels, by Frank R. Stockton (Cassell & Co.), is a series of letters written by the well-known handmaiden at Rudder Grange to her former mistress, descriptive of her travels with a husband in England. It will be remembered that Pomona on her first introduction to the house-boat used to read nothing but "dime

novels," but since then her education must have progressed amazingly; for here she shows a considerable acquaintance with English literature, and writes and behaves in almost irreproachable style. Indeed, to our English ideas it seems nearly incredible that a servant should have acquired such correctness of manner. However that may be, the book is very pleasant reading, and describes well some charming bits of English and Scotch scenery: the stag-hunt on Exmoor, for instance, is excellently done, and is evidently the work of one who has followed the hounds in one of their runs. There are also some amusing episodes, such as the arrival of the coach at the lodgings off the Strand, Jones's manner of commanding respect from the waiter, and above all the elopement in bath chairs, which is extremely funny. The book is agreeable reading for an Englishman, because Pomona, without any undue sacrifice of her national vanity, shows a genial appreciation of English merit where it exists. The illustrations by Mr. Frost are excellent, and he quite rises to the humour of the bath-chair scene.

The Land of the Dawning. By Edward H. Canney. (Remington & Co.)—It is difficult to understand the exact *raison d'être* of this book. Mr. Canney seems to be an Englishman who has travelled in Australia, and who now thinks it necessary to pour out a miscellany of geographical, historical, and autobiographical remarks in a language which is slipshod almost past belief. Apart from the badness of its style, the book is too scrappy to serve any useful purpose or to awaken much interest, though there are several amusing stories to reward any one who finds it necessary to read the book; still they hardly redeem it.

A PRETTY edition of Mr. Howells's sprightly tale *Their Wedding Journey* has been issued by Mr. David Douglas. The illustrations by Mr. Clifford Carleton harmonize well with the tone of the story. The typography does credit to the Riverside Press of Cambridge, Mass., and the only drawback to as pretty a Christmas book as we have yet seen is the American spelling.—Another Transatlantic reprint is an edition in one volume of the interesting *Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant*, which Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. send us.—The first volume has appeared of a new edition of Prof. Max Müller's well-known *Chips from a German Workshop* (Longmans). In his preface the veteran professor once more affirms a faith in the Solar Myth which we should have thought he would have seen reason to modify. The volume is devoted to his recent essays and speeches, the professor reprinting his address at the opening of that School of Oriental Languages which has proved such a lamentable failure, not from any fault of his, but because the money of the Imperial Institute is spent on shows to attract sightseers instead of upon philology.

MESSRS. A. & C. BLACK have completed their Dryburgh edition of the "Waverley Novels" with a final volume containing *The Surgeon's Daughter* and *Castle Dangerous*. A useful general index completes a highly creditable edition of the novels, which for combined neatness and cheapness has a strong claim on the bookbuyer. If in taking leave of this excellent edition we ought to pick a hole, we may point to the note in the glossary on "The Sultan of Trebizond" as defective. It had already appeared in vol. xxiii.—A new edition of the striking volume of Indian stories which Mrs. Steel entitles *The Flower of Forgiveness* has reached us from Messrs. Macmillan.

WE have on our table *Infamia: its Place in Roman Public and Private Law*, by A. H. J. Greenidge (Oxford, Clarendon Press).—*Ontario's Parliament Buildings: a Historical Sketch, 1792-1892*, by F. Yeigh (Marlborough).—*On the Wallaby*, by Guy Boothby (Longmans).—*Western Australia: its History and Progress*, by A. F. Calvert (Simpkin).—*Epochs of Indian History*, edited by J. Adam: *The Muham-*

madans, 1001-1761 A.D., by J. D. Rees, C.I.E. (Longmans).—*The University Tutorial Series: A History of Greece, 371-323 B.C.*, by A. H. Allcroft (Clive).—*Euripides in English Verse: Hecuba, Alceste, and Medea*, by Arthur S. Way, M.A. (Macmillan).—*The Elements of Geometry*, by W. Wells (Boston, U.S., Leach & Co.).—*Manual of Practical Logarithms*, by W. N. Wilson (Rivington).—*Trusts, Pools, and Corners*, by J. S. Jeans (Methuen).—*The Mother's Help and Guide*, by P. M. Braidwood, M.D. (Scientific Press).—*A Prospectus of Socialism*, by W. Thomson (Reeves).—*At the Sign of the Wicket*, by E. B. V. Christian (Simpkin).—*By Celtic Waters, Holiday Jaunts*, by C. K. (Davy).—*The Yellow Book*, Vol. III. (Lane).—*The Westovers*, by A. Ridgeway (Digby & Long).—*Set Free*, by Aglia (Bristol, Arrow-smith).—*Driven into the Ranks*, by the Rev. R. Vennel (S.S.U.).—*Tanagra, an Idyl of Greece*, by G. Kinkel, translated by F. Hellman (Putnam).—*Europa's Moods and Britannia's Peril, in Two Cantos*, by A. Pittie (Simpkin).—*Sir Dunstan's Daughter, and other Poems*, by A. Smythe (Digby & Long).—*Poems*, by P. Withers (Falkner).—*The Joys of Home, and other Poems*, by B. G. Hoare ('Inverness Courier' Office).—*Christ and Scepticism*, by S. A. Alexander, M.A. (Isbister).—*The Kingdom of God is Within You*, by Count Leo Tolstoi, translated by A. Delano (Scott).—*The Drama of the Apocalypse*, by En Dansk (Unwin).—*L'Eclatance*, by F. Martuech (Paris, Lévy).—*Les Boulinard, Comédie-Faudeville en trois Actes, en Prose*, edited by A. P. Huguenet (Hachette).—*Dee Verse Starofrancouzské Legendy o Sv. Katerine Alexandrinské*, by Jan Urban Jarník (two versions of the legend, published in a handsome quarto by the Academy of Prague).—*Ueber Lesen und Bildung*, by A. G. Schönbach (Grätz, Leuschner & Lubensky).—and *Traité de la Physionomie humaine*, by E. Ledos (Paris, Oudin).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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- Corbett's (Rev. F. St. J.) *The Preacher's Year: Outline Sermons*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
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- Ffoulkes's (C. J.) *Noël, a Book of Carols for Christmastide*, Music by H. A. V. Ransom, 4to. 5/ cl.

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- Brooke (Sir S. V.), *Sportman and Naturalist, Memoir of his Life, &c.*, edited by O. L. Stephen, cr. 8vo. 12/ cl.
Froude's (J. A.) *Life and Letters of Erasmus*, cheap edition, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
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CARL PLOUG.

A MAN who had taken a very prominent place in the public as well as the literary life of Denmark passed away in Copenhagen on October 27th, two days before the completion of his eighty-first year.

Carl Parnø Ploug was born on October 29th, 1813, at Kolding. At the age of sixteen he entered the University of Copenhagen. He became almost at once a centre of student life, wrote popular student songs, and in 1840 founded the Union, the first club which was formed of young members of the University. He was one of the five students who, on the death of Frederick VII., waited upon the new king, Christian VIII., with a petition for a reform of the statutes; and four years later, in 1843, Ploug was the leader of the earliest student pilgrimage to Upsala, presently to become one of the most curious and stimulating annual occurrences in Danish life. In consequence of his activity and prominence in the organization of the young, Ploug was, in May, 1841, offered the editorship of *Fædrelandet* ('The Fatherland'), a newspaper which he conducted, with extraordinary energy, in the interests of constitutional liberty and the development of the national life for more than forty years. He retired in 1881.

At the time of the first Sleswick-Holstein war, Ploug came into great prominence. His newspaper grew to be the most influential in the country, and his songs and patriotic pieces were on every one's lips. His popularity and influence were such that, on offering himself to his native town of Kolding as a candidate for the Rigsdag, he was elected by acclamation. His political career, which was for a time highly successful, lies out of the scope of our columns. Enough to say he suffered tragically in 1864. His activity as a poet concerns us more. In 1846 he first collected into a volume his scattered lyrics, all breathing the most intense and ideal passion of patriotism; and to this succeeded at intervals other but similar collections of songs and miscellaneous pieces. Ploug was untouched by the artistic revolutions of the times he lived in. His poetry was not of the exquisite order, but direct and political of a simple and eloquent kind. The dream of his life and the goal of his literary activity had been the formation of a united Scandinavia, and the close of his life was saddened by the sense of complete disappointment. Yet Denmark remains sensibly the richer for all his unselfish patriotism.

TENNYSONIANA.

In 1861 a Latin translation of 'In Memoriam' was privately printed by Messrs. Bradbury & Evans, of which I have a copy interleaved in the English poem by the same printers. The volume contains the usual half-titles: (a) "In Memoriam"; (b) "In Memoriam | A. H. H. | obiit MDCCCXXXIII." but no title-page or head-lines; the Latin and English being separately paged.

On the back is stamped "In Memoriam | O. A. S."; and inside the cover is a slip of white paper with the words "Printed for private circulation only," beneath which is

written "Oswald Augustus Smith." Mr. O. A. Smith is the author of the translation, which he has dedicated "Ad avunculum meum"—the late Mr. Ernald Mosley Smith of Relugas, Morayshire. Mrs. E. M. Smith kindly forwarded a letter of inquiry for me to her nephew, but he has sent no reply.

The translation is evidently the work of a scholar, but the elegiac couplets in which it is written are hardly suited for the expression of subtle thoughts, and become at times spondaic and heavy. Moreover, certain passages would be very obscure if the English were not known. This is Mr. Smith's rendering of a familiar stanza, No. xxvii., "I envy not in any moods," &c.:—

Non est invidiæ mihi qualiacunque putanti
Captivus, quem non nobilis ira movet;
Non avis, angusto cui nate in carcere ferri
Æstiva haud unquam cogita æyva fuit:
Non est invidiæ fera mota libidine sola,
Cui breve per tempus luxuriæ licet;
Cui brutum pectus mens recti conscia nunquam
Legibus obstringit, cognitioque mali;
Non est invidiæ quod se putet esse beatum,
Cor illud, cui non est sua pacta fides;
Cor, quod desidia torpet, oeu vilibus herbis;
Nec quæ pauperie est sordida nata quies.
Hoc certum teneo, vitæ quodcumque futurum est;
Certum, cum pectus maxima cura premit;
Ille magis felix, qui, sit licet orbis, amavit,
Quam qui non note deget amore dies.

R. B. J.

PUBLISHERS, BOOKSELLERS, AND THE PUBLIC.

UNDER this heading the *Times* has recently published an article upon certain "coercive measures" which are said to be growing up in connexion with the "net" system of publishing. Reference is made to a former "crisis in the book trade," and the writer concludes that "possibly, or even probably, the influences which sufficed to abolish this trade-union dictation in 1852 will suffice to prevent its revival in 1894."

What those "influences" are the writer does not state, and therefore it is impossible for us to judge how far they are likely to operate; but incidentally the *Times* article gives currency to statements that ought not to go unchallenged, and as on former occasions I venture to place on record in the *Athenæum* the views of a publisher and bookseller of some twenty years' standing.

The *Times* writer says that this "social change"—by which he means the growth of the net system of publishing—"affects simultaneously the interests of bookbuyers and of authors." At the outset, the publisher and the bookseller are regarded as persons who have no interests to be affected. That is the first error that must be corrected before any good can come of discussing this matter in the *Times*.

It is then pointed out as a grievance that "while 60 per cent. had to cover the charges for typesetting, press work, paper, binding, advertising, and author's profit, 40 per cent. was charged for portage!" Here, again, the existence of publishers and booksellers as men bred to a difficult business and entitled to get their living by the exercise of what the *Spectator* would call "ability" is quietly ignored. It is also assumed that the question of booksellers' profits can be disposed of by roughly assigning them a certain percentage of the advertised price of every book published. This is another blunder which writers without practical experience of the trade continually make, and thus further complicate the problem they attempt to solve.

The *Times* writer proceeds to assert that the result achieved by the committee of the book trade in 1852 was to "raise the prices of books to amounts considerably above those needful to yield the retail booksellers adequate profits." How very dreadful! and how clever is the *Times* writer to discover what so many of us have failed to learn, namely, the point at which a bookseller's profit passes from the region of the inadequate to that of the adequate! Strange

to say, however, the *Times* fails to mention a single bookseller whom these excessive profits enabled to retire with a fortune.

The *Times* account of the rise of the discount system concludes as follows: "That benefit has resulted cannot well be questioned. Decrease in the price of a book from, say, 12s. to 9s., must have added considerably to the number of copies sold." Who has benefited? Not the publishers and booksellers of course, but readers and authors. "While readers have gained by this greater accessibility, authors have gained by the increased sales: for the author's profit per copy has remained practically the same."

The *Times* admits on the one hand that "the wider diffusion given to sensational and trashy literature has been an evil," but on the other hand points to the issue of multitudinous editions of the English classics of every kind at extremely low prices, and avers that many "grave but enlightening books" have been brought into existence under the discount system which previously could not have existed.

The civilizing and refining influences of the discount system form the *motif* of the *Times* article; but can the writer really believe what he says? I ask this because I do not find any proposal to abolish the railway bookstall as inimical to literature and morals, and yet that would seem to flow naturally from the *Times* argument.

Cheap literature has, of course, existed at all times, and the book-lover can point to some of the most charming books on his shelves as published forty years ago at a shilling. Such were Vizetelly's "Readable Books," the first editions of which invariably consisted of 20,000 copies.

But since those days the schoolmaster has been abroad and multiplied indefinitely the number of those who buy books. To say, therefore, that the "discount" system has wrought this change is to talk sheer nonsense. As well argue that the absurd system of publishing music is responsible for the filling of our concert halls. But the *Times* writer goes even further than this. He asserts that in 1852 the sales of good books were "narrowed by artificially enhanced prices." Artificially enhanced prices, on the contrary, have been the bane of these later days, and the direct outcome of the "discount" system—prices introduced specially to meet the demand of the public for 25 per cent. discount; and it is this ridiculous, degrading, and immoral custom that every respectable bookseller and publisher detests with all his soul. But why break a butterfly upon the wheel? Only the prestige of the *Times* could give currency to an article which so obviously begs the question.

There can be only two rational modes of publishing: the one by which the manufacturer sells wholesale at a reasonable profit on cost of production, and leaves the bookseller to settle prices with the consumer according to local circumstances; the other by which the manufacturer fixes the retail price, which, while high enough to leave a margin for booksellers' discounts, is yet low enough to tempt the public through the medium of newspaper advertisements. The first plan has this disadvantage, that it places the manufacturer entirely in the hands of the trade, and the entire edition of a book may be rendered wastepaper by trade opposition. The second plan is one which would have no disadvantages whatever if the public were not so foolish as to believe that it really gets a book 25 per cent. under value through the "discount" system.

It is no doubt a pleasant thing to fancy that, by the exercise of amateur ingenuity, a publisher can be made through his agent, the bookseller, to disgorge enormous profits by the discount system. Let the advocates of such a system read an article in the *Spectator* on the Wages of Ability. The writer of that article ably exposes the fallacy that Ability is to be ousted either by capital or labour, by the producer or

consumer. He supplies a want and he knows it, and whoever may go shorn it will not be the organizer of labour, typified by the *Spectator* as Ability.

For a short time the discount system threw publishers out of their stride, but for years past they have recognized that a six-shilling novel or a sixpenny toybook really meant three shillingsworth or three pennyworth of literature, and have produced accordingly an article to sell wholesale at that price. The royalty payable to authors no doubt was a great bar, but old royalty agreements were altered, or (tell it not in Gath) books bearing too high a royalty to sell rapidly and profitably under the discount system were—well, not pushed.

Depend upon it, the bookbuying public will have to suit itself as to prices. A rose by any other name will smell as sweet to the producer, the publisher, while the bookseller of to-day positively thrives upon the discount system. Only the other day, a new five-shilling book which was to produce three shillings a copy for the publisher was deliberately advertised as a six-shilling book, in order that the trade might offer it at 4s. 6d., 5s., or 6s., according to locality and other circumstances. But for the foolish idea of which the *Times* writer is the foolish exponent, the book might have been advertised at 4s. 6d. with the same result to publisher and author.

Had the *Times* writer devoted himself to dispelling the idea that bookbuyers get any advantage out of the discount system, had he tried to persuade the public to abandon the degrading practice of inviting publishers to call a ninepenny book a shilling book, he would have deserved well of authors, publishers, booksellers, and the bookbuying public; had he even supported those publishers and booksellers who are trying to remove this stain upon their trade he would have deserved respectful mention; but his article is illogical and futile from beginning to end, as where he argues that "to these and other pleas there is a brief but sufficient reply. They were urged a generation ago, and a generation ago they were examined and rejected."

Yes, but now we are wiser by the experience of forty years, and the net system is come to stay.

A PUBLISHER.

THE ETYMOLOGY OF "CODLING."

It is shown in the 'New English Dictionary' that *codling*, in the sense of a kind of apple, was originally spelt *querdling*, later *quodling* or *quodling*, and finally *codling*. The origin of *querd* is not known.

I suggest that it is Irish, from the Irish *cueirt*—an apple tree. The word is old enough, for one of the letters of the Ogam alphabet was named *cueirt*; and all these letters were named after trees.

I am reminded that another apple had the singular name of *cocagee*, which, as the 'New English Dictionary' shows, is certainly nothing but Irish.

Whilst I am about it, I will make yet one more endeavour to solve an unknown word, because it is possibly the same word.

In the Bannatyne MS., fol. 38a, there is a poem beginning: "O man, unthankfull to thy Creator" (see the print by the Hunterian Club, 1867). The third stanza begins:—

Behald, how riche arayit is the erd [earth],
To thy uphald, in habet pientous;
Yeldand the fruct as anaweris to the querd,
Cawsit be God, be wiking marvellus.

I take it that the earth yields the fruit, such as answers to the apple tree, which is taken as the type of trees in general.

WALTER W. SKEAT.

THE HOUSE OF OLDENBURG.

94, Gullford Street, W.C.

My feeling on reading Mr. Wilson King's letter in the *Athenæum* of October 27th was one

of intense surprise, as I did not think anybody could be found to dispute my facts. Is Mr. King really serious in pitting old Hamelmann against the results of modern historical research?

I readily grant that I might learn much from Hamelmann's 'Oldenburgisch Chronicon,' but I prefer not to do so, as I should have to unlearn a great part of it again. Hermann Hamelmann was a writer of great industry, and is still of value for the history of the Reformation, if used with discretion. For the history of earlier ages, however, I must absolutely decline to accept his statements as genuine evidence. Mr. King says he had Hamelmann's book before him. If he had looked into it a little more closely, he would have found no allusion to Dukes of Oldenburg. On the title-page, in the dedicatory epistle, &c., only Counts of Oldenburg are mentioned. How Mr. King can from this book infer the existence of the ducal title for Oldenburg, I fail to see. Or should the proof be contained in the verses under the fancy portrait of Widukind in a Renaissance suit of armour with his imaginary wives? If so, I must confess that my knowledge of Latin is not sufficient to make it out.

As regards Widukind, Hamelmann does call him King of the Saxons, and so do other writers, whose name is legion. But does that prove him to have been king? Hamelmann himself expresses doubt as to the accuracy of all he writes: "Dann wer will in solchen alten Sachen jederzeit das rechte Ziel treffen?" I may, therefore, be permitted to indulge in doubt, too, and, instead of being satisfied with second-hand information, to go to the fountain-head. I challenge Mr. King to produce any writer of the eighth and ninth centuries who styles Widukind king.

The first mention of Widukind in contemporary chronicles is under the year 777, when the Saxon war had already been in progress for a number of years. A king or duke would surely have been mentioned before. And how is Widukind described? Einhard, who must have known best of all, writes: "Cuncti ad eum (Carolus) venerunt præter Widichindum, unum ex primoribus Westfalarum, qui multorum sibi facinorum conscius, et ob id regem veritus, ad Sigfridum Danorum regem profugerat." Poeta Saxo simply says: "Quidam Widokindus." From none of the contemporary writers can the slightest proof of Widukind having been King or Duke of the Saxons be gained—in fact, the *ducatus* was an unknown institution.

Only later on, when Widukind became the hero of legends, he rose in rank. In the tenth century the 'Vita Mahthildis Major' calls him Dux Saxonie. The 'Vita Mahthildis Minor' styles him "in occidentali regione [i.e., Westfalia] dux gloriosus." Thietmar of Merseburg, who leads us into the eleventh century, at last promoted him to the dignity of a king, and later writers faithfully followed him. Historical myths, as a rule, die hard; but it is time that this one should be finally settled. It has run long enough.

Pedigree-mongers have always made much use of Widukind, though we cannot trace his descendants beyond his great-grandson. The only person whose descent from him is attested by a trustworthy authority is Mahthilde, the consort of Heinrich I.; and until convincing proof be advanced, the descent of the house of Oldenburg from Widukind must be denied, in spite of Hamelmann and others.

I think I have made good my case against Mr. King. But to show that I am ready to acknowledge my failings, I beg to rectify a slip in my letter which escaped his notice. I spoke of Duke Adolf of Holstein, whereas he was only Count of Holstein. Holstein became a duchy under his successor Christian. My mistake arose from his being also Duke of Schleswig.

F. W. HUGO BARTELS.

THE REV. JAMES HEALY, P.P.

THE Rev. James Healy, parish priest of Ballybrack, near Bray, died on Sunday last (October 28th) from an acute attack of pneumonia, contracted the previous Sunday during the discharge of his duties. But he had suffered much from other ailments during the past two years, and his enfeebled constitution, coupled with his seventy years, was unable to resist any new complication.

The simple fact is that a poor parish priest, not gifted as a preacher or a writer, passed away after a long life of modest usefulness; and yet the announcement will be felt in many circles—from those of the poor, who meet together to talk in their cottages at Bray, to those of the peers who fare sumptuously every day throughout their mansions in England—as a distinct blow to society, a loss to the brightness of their life, a sudden gap which no living man can stop. Father Healy received no privileges from his outward circumstances. Born, as he often boasted, in the Liberties (Francis Street) of Dublin, educated (with some distinction) at Maynooth, he spent almost all his clerical life as curate or parish priest of Little Bray. Six months ago, when his health and powers of enjoyment were failing, he was promoted to the neighbouring parish of Ballybrack. He probably at no time commanded more than 200*l.* a year—his parish was the poorest in the diocese—and yet by the large qualities of head and heart, helped by a native fund of wit of the first order, he made himself beloved and respected by his parishioners, approved by his diocesan, the centre of a simple but large hospitality in his home, the favoured and envied guest of the great, the model of what an Irish priest might be. Though opposed in his politics to the majority of his order, though most outspoken in his opinions, he never forfeited the friendship of his most bigoted opponents. But he took no active part in non-ecclesiastical quarrels; he was never seen on a platform, he never acted as canvassing agent at an election.

There was no question about his extraordinary gifts for conversation. He was far better than a teller of stories, a preparer of smart sayings. Though he saw the humorous side of things spontaneously, he could not be called a humourist; he was essentially a natural wit, who turned any chance topic that arose with brilliant versatility to his purpose. This is not the moment, while his grave is still fresh, to record specimens of his wonderful vivacity; they are treasured in the memories of his many friends, and will keep him alive in their hearts for many a long year. But it is well to call attention, as a lesson in the exercise of a dangerous gift, to the three qualities which made him the model of a man of society. In the first place, as I have said, his wit was spontaneous. No man could ever suspect him of preparation. In the second place it was pure, a quality very distinctive of Irish wit, and one which he asserted for it when the need arose, not without sternness. Thirdly, it was kindly, nor did he ever use his power to hurt the feelings of any human being. Yet many a severe moral lesson was conveyed to his Irish parishioners with this consoling flavour; many a young man checked in doubtful talk; of course, many a weary and sick soul cheered by this gift from a pastor who could say, with St. Peter, "Silver and gold have I none."

His outward presence expressed perfectly the soul within. It would have been a common face but for the uncommon qualities which marked it, for it was broadened with smiles, lit up with a twinkling eye, refined by the delicate nostril and mobile lips, which told of his delicate perception and his ready utterance—an utterance rich with the flavour of his origin. He was never at a loss for a kindly word; to meet him in the street was like passing suddenly into sunshine. At his simple house

in Bray, with the aid of a single servant, he would entertain all that was distinguished in Irish society for rank and for intellect. The feast was modest, but most ample. The company might possibly have been gathered together with much difficulty by a duke or a millionaire. There was hardly another man living who could supply the qualities of the host, beaming with hospitality and sparkling with wit, at the head of his incomparable table. Such losses may soon deprive Ireland of its prerogative as a land of delightful social intercourse. William Le Fanu is gone, James Healy is gone, Father Tom Burke is gone. When will worthy successors take their place? If those whom the gods love die young, then Healy was such. Had he lived for a century, he would have died young—far too young, indeed, for the many that loved him.

J. P. MAHAFFY.

Literary Gossip.

MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. have in preparation a new book by the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, of the existence of which we made mention some time ago, and which they hope to publish early in January. The title will be 'The Foundations of Belief: being Notes introductory to the Study of Theology.'

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING's first American story will be printed in an early number of the *Century*.

MR. GEORGE SAINTSBURY has severed his connexion with the *Saturday Review*, and since his resignation was tendered the journal has been again sold. The purchase was concluded on Wednesday. The new editor is Mr. Frank Harris.

MR. GEORGE SMITH, the well-known publisher, has just been accorded by the University of Oxford an exceptional distinction which will be widely appreciated. In recognition of his public spirit in projecting and publishing the 'Dictionary of National Biography' the Hebdomadal Council has offered him the honorary degree of M.A. The degree will be conferred this month.

THE most important contribution yet published to the biography of Dante Gabriel Rossetti is now in course of preparation, and is likely to be issued at a not very distant date; the publishers will be Messrs. Ellis & Elvey, who produced Rossetti's 'Collected Works' and other volumes. The book will consist of two sections: 1, a memoir of some considerable length, on which his brother William Michael Rossetti is now actively engaged; 2, Dante Rossetti's family letters, from his boyhood to the latest months of his life. These letters are addressed to seven relatives, principally his mother and brother, and are fully annotated by the latter, so as to explain collateral details and allusions. There will be nine portraits in the volumes. Eight of these are from paintings or drawings done by Dante Rossetti, and represent himself and the seven persons addressed. The ninth is a portrait of his wife (Miss Siddal), her own production. Mr. William Rossetti put together and annotated the letters very soon after the death of his brother in April, 1882. At that time a friend, highly qualified for the task, undertook to write the memoir; but, as this intention has not been carried out, Mr. William Rossetti has now, not without some reluctance, addressed himself to the work.

LORD SALISBURY, we believe, took a personal part in urging the Council of King's College last week to refuse the Government grant. Though this was carried by a majority of two to one, the public discussion concerning the charter will no doubt aid materially in bringing the College to terms with the University Commission, when it is appointed.

UNDER the title of 'Chronicles of Count Antonio' Mr. Anthony Hope, author of 'The Prisoner of Zenda,' has written the serial which is to appear in *Chambers's Journal* for next year. Besides the usual instalment of articles of popular and current interest, short stories will also be contributed by G. M. Fenn, S. R. Crockett, T. W. Speight, L. T. Meade, E. W. Hornung, and many others.

MR. BUCKLE, who has been staying at Chénies for some weeks, and has been more or less seriously unwell all the time, has returned to town, and will, it is hoped, be able in a few weeks to return to his work.

A QUARTERLY journal devoted to matters historical, topographical, literary, and scientific, relating to two of the home counties, will make its appearance with the new year. It is to be under the editorship of Mr. W. J. Hardy, F.S.A., and its title will be *Middlesex and Hertfordshire Notes and Queries*. Many eminent hands will be contributors.

THE translation of the Icelandic Sagas and other historical documents relating to the settlements and descents of the Northmen on the British Isles, with much introductory matter, which Sir G. W. Dasent has had in preparation for many years, is now completed at press, and will be issued in a few days by Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode. The original text of the Sagas was published in 1887, under the editorship of M. Gudbrand Vigfusson.

A REPORT on the manuscripts of historical value belonging to Lord Kenyon and preserved at Gredington, Flintshire, will follow closely upon the other volumes now being circulated under the authority of the royal commission engaged upon such researches. The ancestors of the famous Lord Chief Justice were men of note in their native county of Lancaster for many generations, and their correspondence throws much light not only upon local affairs, but upon the Jacobite plots and rebellions in which that county always took a leading part.

THE reports of the Historical Commissioners, we are informed, meet with a ready sale, in spite of their unattractive exterior. Several of the earlier ones have been out of print for some years, and complaints are numerous of the difficulty and expense of making up complete sets of the publications. The Stationery Office has, therefore, decided to reprint all the reports (about seven in number) not now procurable in the usual way from the printers and agents, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode.

THE eighth general meeting of the Scottish History Society was held in Edinburgh on Tuesday last. It was announced that the inedited materials in the archives of the Hague and Rotterdam in illustration of the history of the Scots Brigade were for the most part already in the hands of the editor,

Mr. James Ferguson, and would make three volumes of the Society's publications. Mr. Donald Crawford, M.P., is editing a diary of travels in France in 1665 and 1666, by John Lauder, afterwards Lord Fountainhall. Mr. A. H. Millar is bringing out a journal or note-book of Baillie David Wedderburne, merchant of Dundee, 1587-1630; and Mr. William Mackay, of Inverness, is preparing for publication a series of extracts from the curious Presbytery records of Inverness and Dingwall from 1638 to 1688. The volume of 'Ormond Letters,' left incomplete on the death of the late Mr. Russell, will be carried through the press in the course of next year by Mr. W. K. Dickson, advocate.

We are sorry to learn that Mr. John Walter is lying very seriously ill at Bearwood.

An English translation of the text of the Old Syriac Gospels as contained in the Sinai Codex has been prepared by Mrs. S. S. Lewis, and will shortly be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. Mrs. Lewis has made the Authorized Version the basis for her choice of English phrases, so as to bring out more clearly the points of resemblance betwixt the Sinai Codex and the text of the Revised Version, to which references are given in the margin, as also to Cureton's text, and to that of the Codex Bezae, as a representative of the old Latin. The volume will be also furnished with an appendix, giving a list of words and phrases in the "Textus Receptus" which have no equivalent in the Sinaitic text, of which conciseness is a leading characteristic. This, it is hoped, will make the volume more useful to Greek scholars unacquainted with Syriac.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON have nearly ready for publication a translation by Mr. Edward Vizetelly of 'Fromont Jeune et Risler Ainé.' The ordinary edition will contain eighty-eight wood engravings by Fromont and Hamel from drawings by George Roux, and an *édition de luxe* will, in addition, have twenty full-page etchings.

A new weekly organ of advanced Liberalism, to be called *The Liberal*, will shortly make its appearance in Scotland. It will be edited by Mr. David Balsillie, who will be assisted by a strong staff of contributors. Thoroughness of discussion, the advocacy of necessary reforms, both political and industrial, and courtesy towards all parties, are to be aimed at by the new journal. It will be printed in Edinburgh, but published in London and Glasgow as well.

THE obituary of the week contains the name of Mr. John Askham, the shoemaker poet, who died at Wellingborough on Sunday last. His first volume of verse was published in 1863, and his last (his fourth) in 1875. He lately brought out a collection of prose sketches.

THE Government of Italy is making a new effort for the extension of Italian in the Levant by the institution of Italian commercial schools. The first will be established at Beyrout.

PROF. ERNST CURTIUS will celebrate on the 6th inst. his professional jubilee. On September 2nd he celebrated his eightieth birthday.

THE Thüringische Verein für Geschichte und Alterthumskunde has undertaken the publication of a complete critical catalogue of all the known documents of Thuringian history from A.D. 500 to the end of the Thirty Years' War. The first "Heft" of vol. i., edited by Dr. Dobenecker, has just been issued.

THE principal Parliamentary Papers issued last week are Report of the Board of Trade on the Hours of Labour of Railway Servants (3d.); and Marriage and Divorce Laws in Foreign Countries and Colonies, Part III., Canada (7d.).

SCIENCE

The Ruling Races of Prehistoric Times in India, South-Eastern Asia, and Southern Europe. By J. F. Hewitt. (Constable & Co.)

EARLY civilizations have been a favourite theme with authors of late. First of all, Dr. Terrien de Lacouperie presented us with a stately tome on the Western origin of the early Chinese civilization; next Miss Simcox, enlarging the range, described in two weighty volumes the primitive civilizations of Egypt, Babylonia, and China; and now Mr. Hewitt, still further extending the view, surveys mankind from China to Peru. Going more remotely back into antiquity than either of the other authors, he seeks in cosmic myth and fable for the first glimmering of culture in the human race. The method is a seductive one; but, like many seductive things, it is likely, if freely indulged in, to lead one astray, and on some points Mr. Hewitt has been lured on by verbal resemblances and historical coincidences beyond the line which separates facts from fancies. His book is a marvellous example of varied learning, and is full of interesting and suggestive matter.

In the space at our command we are unable to criticize minutely his whole system and argument, but we propose to quote a case in which he has allowed himself to be carried away by the allurements of fancy, and another in which he demonstrates his argument up to the hilt.

As an example of the first, Mr. Hewitt sees in Sar or Sara the primæval goddess-mother of the Basque corn-growing races of Asia Minor, and he derives the word from *zare*, a basket, and *zar*, a willow. By an association of ideas he connects the basket with the winning basket in common use, and as a holder of the grain associates it with the husk which surrounds the corn. Starting from these premises, he assumes that the Sarah of Biblical history is the primæval goddess-mother, or, in other words, the husk which gave birth to Isaac, the laughing grain, her husband being Abram, that is, "the sun god Rā or Ram, the son of Terah, the antelope of Nahor or the Euphrates." This Isaac

"is the blind house-pole father of the generations of barley growers born from his twin sons Esau, the goat god, and his Hittite wives, parents of the sons of Edom, or the red earth, the home of the red race, and from Yakob, the sun water god, Ia, and his wives Leah, the wild cow, and Rachel, the ewe, daughters of Laban, the moon god of Haran."

On the other hand, Mr. Hewitt has dealt very completely with the myth of St. George

and the Dragon, and traces it back to the Egyptian Horus, of whose combat with Set there is the well-known Egyptian statue in the Louvre, which, with the exception of the sparrow-hawk's head of the god, is identical with Byzantine pictures of the combat of St. George and the Dragon. This legend, which has found its way all over Western and Central Asia, is one of those nature myths which mark the earliest imaginative efforts of mankind on emerging from barbarism; and as emblemizing that fruitful subject the god of spring slaying the dragon of winter, it forms a counterpart to the classical fable of Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, who was carried off in the autumn and detained for the six winter months in the lower regions of the earth until released by the returning spring.

Mr. Hewitt considers that human society first took shape in the primæval village, and he adduces certain linguistic arguments in support of his further theory that the village communities were first established in India. It is unquestionable that they were instituted at a very early period among the pre-Aryan tribes of Hindustan; but even at a more remote antiquity they are known to have existed among the dwellers on the banks of the Nile. Such communities are the natural outcome of the beginnings of law and order, and are met with among all primitive agricultural tribes of the East. Before the existence of kings, princes, and governors they formed a rallying point for clans, and afforded protection to members against their enemies. The framers of these primitive associations were, as Mr. Hewitt points out, "succeeded by the miners, metal workers, and artisans of the early Bronze Age, who looked on fire and the life-giving heat as the author of life." One of the most interesting portions of Mr. Hewitt's book is that in which he traces the adoption of the various seasons of the year to the astronomical observations made by the primitive peoples. To us, with our regular and established system of months and seasons, it is difficult to understand the eagerness with which the rising and setting of constellations were watched for by the earliest races of mankind. To them it was especially true that the lights in the firmament of heaven were "for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years." To the Indian farmer, the nomad shepherd of Central Asia, and the Egyptian agriculturist the heavens pointed with unerring accuracy to the seasons for ploughing, for sowing, and for reaping. The appearance of the Pleiades above the horizon at sunset in November marked the beginning of one of the two seasons into which the primitive year was divided, and which lasted until the same constellation disappeared from the sky in the month of April. Mr. Hewitt has pursued his subject "from the egg to the apples," and has collected wide and varied evidence of the different seasons into which later generations of men, whose higher culture required other and more minute partitions, divided the year.

We are, as we have already said, unable to follow, discuss, and criticize all Mr. Hewitt's arguments. To do this satisfactorily we should require almost as much space as that occupied by the original work, and we can only now recommend those who

are interested in the early history of their race to read and weigh the mass of facts, evidence, and arguments which he has accumulated.

TEXT-BOOKS and encyclopædias have made us familiar with the great glaciers of the Karakoram as the most extensive icefields outside the Polar regions. But our knowledge of the topography of this savage and inaccessible country, pierced only by difficult, and in many cases disused passes, has been mainly drawn from those sheets of the Indian atlas which include part of it. Mr. W. M. Conway's *Map of the Karakoram-Himalayas* is based on the positions obtained for the great peaks by the Indian surveyors. But in the 25,000 square miles, approximately, included in the sheets issued, it conveys a mass of orographical detail mostly new, and it includes several glacier basins previously unmapped. Government surveys are apt in the first instance to be directed to military or administrative—political as opposed to physical—ends. They are prone to deal very summarily, or conventionally, with all above the snow-level. The result is sometimes unfortunate. M. Reclus and half the geographers of Europe after him have misled the public as to the glaciation of the Caucasus because the 'Five Verst Map' ignored the great snow reservoirs of the central chain, and depicted its glaciers by means of inadequate blue smears. Mr. Conway's first aim has been to satisfy the physical geographer, to represent the glaciation of the mountains and the anatomy of their great ridges, to make his map, as far as was possible, a picture from which the mountain student accustomed to continental cartography—or to such maps as the late Mr. Adams Reilly's—might form a correct idea of the main features of the Karakoram. He shows not only ridges and troughs, but also the surface of the *névés*—as far as he saw them—the crevassed areas or icefalls, and the origin and extent of the moraines, as well as the ribbed structure (so conspicuous in his photographs) of the great mountain ridges. On his return Mr. Conway drew out the map himself on a scale of one inch to a mile. It has been redrawn on half that scale by Mr. Scharbau, of the Royal Geographical Society, and printed in colours by Messrs. Stanford, by whom it is issued together with an explanatory note. To possessors of Mr. Conway's book it supplies a want which must have been felt by all readers who have attempted to follow his narrative in any detail.

IN *Woodside, Burnside, Hillside, and Marsh* (Sonnenschein & Co.) Mr. J. W. Tutt has prepared for the general public a series of sketches of natural history. With the exception of the second heading, which refers to the Highlands—chiefly about Loch Goil—the various chapters are descriptive of rambles over districts rendered historical by Dickens. In "Woodside" an imaginary ramble between Rochester and Cobham Park is placed before the reader, not omitting a visit to the famous Leather Bottle inn. "Hillside" was the area wherein Mr. Winkle and Mr. Tupman displayed their sport in proclivities; and "Marsh" is the scene of Pip's adventures with the convict in 'Great Expectations.' Of course the author is supposed to find—and discourses upon—a much greater variety of beasts, birds, insects, and plants than any one would be likely to observe in many rambles, while in trying to describe these in untechnical language he sometimes assumes a tone only fitted for young children; yet he is evidently a true lover of nature—more of an entomologist than anything else—and his matter is readable as well as fairly sound. The woodcuts in the text are not to be praised, and that of the sheldrake, which is called brent goose (p. 185), should be withdrawn from any future edition.

Travels in a Tree Top. By Charles Conrad Abbott. (Mathews & Lane).—As the title suggests, this is a book mainly concerned with facts of natural history observed by Mr. Abbott. There is nothing scientific about the papers; they are merely random jottings written down in a pleasant semi-conversational style for the benefit of the general reader. Nor is the subject-matter confined to wild life out of doors; there are some papers recalling Mr. Abbott's early days in his American home, and others dealing with antiquarian and ethnological lore. Mr. Abbott pleases by the interest he evidently takes in the subject which he treats, and by the love which he feels for all kinds of animal life; and he adorns his matter with a good English style. If one were to pick out any of the articles for special commendation, one would choose 'Wild Life in Water,' a short chat about the ways of fishes, in whom the author has discovered unsuspected guile and stratagems. Altogether, with its dainty printing, it would be a charming book to read in the open air on a bright summer's day.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Royal Institution, 5.—General Monthly.
- Engineers, 7.
- Institute of British Architects, 8.—Opening Address by Mr. F. C. Penrose, President.
- Aristotelian, 8.—President's Inaugural Address, 'An Essential Distinction in Theories of Experience.'
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Demonstrations,' Mr. W. Anderson.
- TUES. Zoological, 8.—'New Species of Edionychia and Allied Genera of Colomby,' Mr. M. Jacoby; 'Hyoid Arch of Cetartod,' Mr. W. G. Ridewood; 'Third Report on Additions to the Batra-hian Collection in the Natural History Museum,' Mr. G. A. Boulenger.
- WED. Archaeological Institute, 4.—'English Municipal Heraldry,' Mr. W. B. St. John Hope.
- Entomological, 8.
- Geological, 8.—'Notes on some Recent Sections in the Malvern Hills,' Prof. A. H. Green; 'The Denbighshire Series of South Denbighshire,' Mr. P. Lake; 'Points in the Geology of the Harlech Area,' Rev. J. F. Blake.
- THURS. Royal Academy, 8.—'Demonstrations,' Mr. W. Anderson.
- Electrical Engineers, 8.—'Electric Tramways in the United States and Canada,' Mr. H. D. Wilkinson; 'Electric Traction, with special reference to the Installation of Elevated Conductors,' Messrs R. W. Blackwell and P. Dawson.
- Sanitary Institute, 8.—'Quarrying of Various Kinds: Granite, Marble, Stone, Slate, Chalk, and Limestone,' Mr. C. Le Neve Foster.
- Mathematical, 8.—President's Address, 'A Generalized Form of the Hypergeometric Series, and the Differential Equation which is satisfied by the Series,' Mr. F. H. Jackson; 'Third (and Concluding) Memoir on certain Infinite Products,' Prof. L. J. Rogers; 'On the Kinematics of non-Euclidean Space,' Prof. W. Burnside.
- FRI. Physical, 5.—'Photographic Action of Stationary Light Waves,' Mr. J. Larmor; 'Vapour Pressure,' Prof. S. Young; 'Luminescence of Glass,' Mr. J. Burke.
- SAT. Astronomical, 8.
- Botanic, 8.—Election of Fellows.

Science Gossip.

MR. FRANK McCLEAN has offered to present to the Royal Observatory at the Cape of Good Hope an equatorially mounted telescope equipped for photographic and astronomic work, and Dr. Gill, subject to the consent of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, has intimated his grateful acceptance of an offer of which he may be trusted to take full advantage in the cause of science. The photographic refractor will be of 24 inches aperture, and be provided with an object-glass prism having a refracting angle of $7\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, and the same aperture as the object-glass. There is also to be provided a visual telescope of 18 inches aperture. The construction of the new telescope has been for some time in progress in Sir H. Grubb's workshops, and the glass for the large prism was delivered in January last.

It having been reported in several scientific papers that a telescope much larger than even the Yerkes, and to have an object-glass 50 in. in aperture, was to be constructed for an observatory at Pittsburgh, the October number of *Astronomy and Astrophysics* states on the highest authority that the only foundation for the report is that an effort is being made to provide a larger telescope for the Allegheny Observatory and to remove it to a better site; but there is no intention to attempt to surpass existing instruments in size.

WE are pleased to notice that the United States Bureau of Agriculture has established in its Weather Department a division for the study of agricultural soils. The adaptation of certain soils and localities to special crops is largely due to atmospheric meteorological con-

ditions and to the relation of the different soils to these conditions. Also the relation of the texture of a soil to its temperature and the amount of moisture it will absorb and retain vitally affects its productiveness. These and kindred subjects will be investigated in this new division of the Bureau.

WE regret to hear that the amount granted by the Prussian state for scientific purposes is constantly diminishing. The Anthropological Society, for instance, which used to receive annually the sum of 1,800 marks, is to receive this year 1,500 marks, and there is reason to fear that the grant will entirely be stopped next year.

THE *Nyasa News* reports the discovery of curious works in stone at Fwambo and other places on the plateau between Lakes Nyasa and Tanganyika. They consist of spheres, discs, and slabs, 3 in. to 6 in. in diameter, and perforated in the centre. The stones are of various kinds, but always hard, and occasionally roughly polished. The natives, among whom stone-cutting is an unknown art, describe these finds as "works of God."

FINE ARTS

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN OIL COLOURS.

THIS exhibition is, on the whole, superior to most of its predecessors. Of course no one expects to find many masterpieces in a collection formed according to the rules of the Institute, which by their extreme "liberality" almost preclude any stringent selection. Nevertheless, it is manifest that, among the six hundred and odd works that are hung here, the proportion of well-studied pictures, the authors of which have had in view some aim more or less serious, has increased to a noteworthy extent; and this although several of the ablest of the members—Sir James Linton, for instance, Mr. H. Moore, Mr. F. D. Millet, Mr. A. Parsons, Mr. J. J. Shannon, Mr. J. Charlton, Mr. F. Dadd, and Mr. Hine—are either not represented at all or but inadequately. It is, too, against the success of the exhibition that a few offensive eccentricities, which are even more ugly than entertaining, occupy places that should have been allotted to works marked by culture and taste.

Turning first to the figure-pictures which are not simply portraits, we may call the visitor's attention to *A Trade on the Beach* (No. 17), by Mr. F. Brangwyn, a large, heavily painted, not to say coarse, badly composed group of costumes rather than men, placed upon a sandy shore. The scene is supposed to be African, the effect that of hot and intense sunlight. At no point has the painter succeeded; in fact, he has completely failed in nearly every respect. Such work as this may be bold, but it is not fine art. *A Sketch* (376), by the same artist, is not so coarse, but it is even rougher.—We have seen much better work of Mr. Kennington's, that is to say, work more lightly and brightly executed, than the half-length, life-size figure of a masquerader which he calls *Pierrette* (39). Although it is by no means without vivacity or brush power, the attempt to do justice to the rich and brilliant carnations of the damsel, as seen by artificial light, is by no means happy, while the flesh itself lacks clearness. Like most of its class, the picture is deficient in luminosity and finish, while a lighter touch is needed.—On the other hand, there is much of all these qualities in Mr. C. B. Barber's "*For what we are about to receive*" (57). In its way the motive is pretty and well expressed, and the work, although rather hard and mechanically carried out, is pleasing.—A more artistic, though somewhat unctuous performance is the first of Mr. J. Clark's two scenes at cottage doors, of which the motto is "*John Anderson, my Jo*" (71).

The pathos is overdone, and the faces are not very well drawn. Much better is its companion, *First Love* (144), the design, expressions, nice colour, and true lighting of which are worthy of the painter to whom we owe 'The Sick Child' of more than thirty years ago.

We hope Mr. E. Bundy may soon design with more reserve, paint more clearly, and combine better colour and finish with greater taste and care than are exhibited in his *Love Philtre* (108), an ambitious piece of work. It is overcrowded with roughly treated accessories, and lacks breadth, simplicity, and repose.—There is a truer charm in Mr. Haynes Williams's well-conceived and well-sustained design called *June* (373), where one of the plumpest of his always plump maidens is reclining in a window seat to escape the heat which the whole picture very aptly suggests. Her white muslin dress is extremely well painted, and the artist was never more happy in emphasizing his idea by aid of the attitude, face, hands, and surroundings of the pretty figure. In colour and chiaroscuro this is, perhaps, his best work; but we do not think so highly of his larger picture of another plump maiden showing a caged bird to a cat, which is called *A Dangerous Introduction* (164). The face of the girl, capably executed though it be, is "too pretty by half": its type should have been more refined, if not higher. On the other hand, the delineation of the mass of brilliant flowers at her side is a capital specimen of firm handling and clear colouring.—Although Mr. J. C. Dollman is not quite at his usual level of excellence this year, *Her Father* (200) is a humorous presentment of the reception by a querulous old gentleman of his daughter's suitor. The cause of the picture's being is manifestly a well-drawn and deftly painted bay mare, from which the suitor has just dismounted. Apart from the steed, the picture is rather flat and thin.—As an example of breadth, force, and veracity, combined with simplicity and careful drawing, few works here are superior to Mr. W. Langley's view of a Cornish cottage yard in *An Interesting Story* (250). The finish is adequate, though the shadows are a little blackish.—A dashing sketch of half-clad girls dancing on the sands in a stiff breeze after bathing is an incident which Mr. E. M. Hale has already more than once depicted, but *On a Breezy Shore* (265) is, though rough and spotty, clever and brilliantly touched. Equally clever is the same artist's *Bathers* (415), yet it will, we hope, be the last of its race.—Another bathing subject, *A Summer Sea* (290), by Mr. G. Wetherbee, represents a naked girl, an artificial figure concocted in the studio: in fact, though accomplished, this picture is not equal to several larger examples of an able artist's rapidly improving powers.

In *Good Hands* (301) is not a bad specimen of Mr. C. A. Smith's work. The faces are excellent, and the general design is appropriate, yet the effect is rather crudely studied, and, the light and shade being hard, the whole is "cut up." More bright and clear is this good genre painter's *Sweet Springtime* (534); it is, as a whole, very pretty and neatly painted, although it is not so sound and solid as it appears. The face of the young lady is the best part, the painting of the dress the deffest.—A dexterous, firm, brilliantly painted, but roughly touched and rather crudely modelled study, from the life, of a Dutch girl's head, No. 308, is contributed by Mr. J. J. Shannon. It suffers greatly from the lack of taste he has shown in placing the bright carnations against a clumsily modelled brass dish, an apposition which is so disastrous to the tone as well as to the coloration that the picture had better have been kept at home. This aberration of a capital artist is oddly named *The Purple Stocking*.—Perhaps the most audacious as well as the most ambitious and clever example of *chic* in the exhibition, which does not proceed from an Impressionist, is Mr. T. Graham's spirited picture *Orpheus and Eurydice* (340),

'Arrey and 'Arriet promenading the Thames Embankment, the lurid and smoky gloom of which is dashed by the pallor of the electric light and the garishness of gas in the background. The effect thus selected is rendered with singular force and veracity, and as to the figures, let us say that they are excellent, that of the lover, who entertains his mistress with the music of an accordion to which she is inclined to caper, being especially so. The girl is too pretty and wholesome for real life, but her action and expression are good. There is no sentimentality in this original and striking picture, which is more than can be said for Mr. S. J. Solomon's *Eva* (352), a deftly, but not solidly painted head of a girl whose self-consciousness is manifest: perhaps an unintentional touch of humour on the part of an artist who always takes himself and his subjects very seriously.—Charmingly sincere and modest is *When Lavin is Away* (367), the best picture by Mr. G. G. Kilburne yet known to us. The spinstress who is brooding over the absence of her lover is an excellent figure, but her mother in the background is a mere convention.

Mr. J. A. Lomax is an excellent designer, of whose technical progress it is pleasant to say that, like Mr. Dollman, but even more successfully, he is ridding his pictures of the vices attendant on a too long course of what is called designing for the newspapers. *Trapped* (384) is a powerful melodrama, but not very appropriately named. The principal figure is a captured Cavalier who lies on the floor of a room, bound by his hands to an iron chest, while a fierce and ruthless committee of Puritans debate his fate. All the figures are capably designed, firmly drawn, and solidly painted, and the expressions are well conceived; the best of them is the struggling captive.—Opposed to this in its technical characteristics, mood, and scheme is M. Fantin-Latour's *L'Aurore* (397), a somewhat stout goddess hovering above an ocean which reminds us of the stage. Pictorially speaking, it is a true, but rather artificial and weakly designed picture proper. The same artist sends in *Roses* (388), white and pale pink flowers in a dark green glass vase, a charming example of his transcendent skill in that branch of art.—The *Allurement* (405) of Mr. E. H. Fahey shows that the painter has taken pains to rid his technique of certain defects. Yet he has not made a picture of this example.

Crude, hot, and artificial, and very heavily touched, but less defective in those respects than its predecessors, is Mr. J. R. Reid's *Ferryden Fisherfolk* (473), where, strange to say, groups of women seem to sit on a beach near large fishing boats and the sea, although the lighting and local colours, which border on coarseness, unmistakably show that not only is the time twilight, but it is an interior effect with smoky shadows in which all the figures are placed. Here is a pictorial conundrum we do not understand.—In his *Cornish Interior* (481), which might as well be laid in Caithness, Mr. H. Carter has painted a pseudo-Israel.—No. 487, *Waiting for the Boats*, by Mr. F. L. Emanuel, is a good study of light and colour, chiefly of old whitewashed French houses in warm grey daylight.—M. J. V. Chelminski's well-harmonized and spirited sketch of the *Old Russian Guard* (500), riding in a foggy landscape over ground covered with snow, is unfairly hung on high. Both the reputation of the painter and the intrinsic merits of his picture deserved better treatment.—*Autumn* (241), a single figure of a portly damsel holding a basket of grapes, is not Sir James Linton's masterpiece, although his great technical skill is evinced in the drawing of the hands and face, and the painting is solid, rich, and strong in colour. Unluckily the attitude of 'Autumn' is not animated enough for her expression to be interesting, nor are the face and figure beautiful enough to be charming. Sir James sends, besides this work, two land-

scapes with figures, *An Autumn Day* (333) and *The Lamb—late Autumn* (509), in both of which his proneness to an excess of black in the half-tones—a failing due to a studio light—is only too manifest, for the effects he has depicted are those of out of doors and open day.—*On Silver Thames* (548), by Mr. A. Burrenson, is a clever and attractive landscape. The figure, dressed in white, of the young lady who is punting is well designed and deftly introduced. Unfortunately, the execution, with all its dexterity, lacks solidity.—A pretty and exceedingly artificial half-length figure, which Miss H. Rae calls *Pandora* (569), is decidedly over-smooth and thin, while the sentimentality of the design may be described as "hot-pressed." The left arm is badly drawn, and the whole is deficient in firm modelling.—*The Seven Ravens* (578), by Mr. J. Scott, a large and ambitious illustration of Grimm's 'Fairy Tales,' is not interesting; besides the one human figure is rather ugly, defective in drawing, and disproportioned. The sable birds are better.—Mr. C. N. Kennedy's *Portrait* (469) of a baby in a chair is skilful, clear, and soft.

The leading landscapes, seascapes, and architectural pieces are Mr. E. H. Fahey's solid and bright *Old Kentish Mill* (5); Mr. T. Davidson's *The Armed Knight Rock* (26); Mr. J. Knight's *October* (34), rather woolly and objectionably mannered; Mr. T. H. McLachlan's highly poetical, strong, and original "Ships that pass in the night" (54), the ocean in a starlit night; Mr. E. M. Wimperis's *Carting Gravel* (95), a telling view of a common in rainy weather, at once rich in colour and harmonious; Mr. L. Thomson's artistic, but artificial *Dorsetshire River* (105); Mr. F. G. Cotman's *Threatening Sky* (115), which is not his best piece; Miss H. Squire's clever study of *A Cosy Corner* (129); Mr. E. Parton's *Windermere from the Fields* (157), a picture of a white calm and some delicately drawn birches; Mr. H. Hine's telling study of a sun-flushed beach, *After a Westerly Gale, Bambro'* (179), a luminous and broad sketch; Mr. J. Weiss's solid and brilliant picture of sunlight and blue shadows *In the Chalk Pits, Amberley* (203); Mr. Y. King's pleasing, but decidedly painty *Gray Day in July* (202); Mr. J. Aumonier's *In the Hayfield* (217), and other really good and artistic, though rather rough and slight studies of nature; Mr. A. J. Foster's luminous and true study of a rippling blue sea in intense sunlight, called *A Mackerel Breeze* (220); Mr. C. M. Wyllie's *On the Stour* (225), a tug and larger craft on a calm river, which is true to nature, but for Mr. Wyllie unusually heavily touched; Mr. Stanhope Forbes's *Paul Church Tower* (258), an artistic sketch, but with somewhat dirty shadows; Mr. S. M. Fisher's pleasant *Spring* (318), a work of high value; and on various and diverse grounds deserving of praise, Mr. E. Garner's *Garden* (317); Miss M. N. Reichardt's *Study of Still Life* (319); Miss K. Colles's *Goat Fell from Troon* (357), an expansive view sympathetically painted; and Mr. Fulleylove's *Ely Cathedral* (28), *Rome* (410), and *Afternoon in the Piazzetta, Venice* (587), the last being a pure, solid, and brilliant study of sunlight.

The principal animal pictures are Mr. J. T. Nettleship's capably painted representation of a well-stuffed tiger prowling, which he calls *Scenting* (132); and Madame H. Ronner's clever picture of cats in a studio, entitled *Afternoon Rest* (87), which is chiefly remarkable for its able fur-painting.

SIR GODFREY KNELLER.

In the course of a recent examination of the Lord Chamberlain's records of the latter end of the seventeenth century some entries relating to Sir Godfrey Kneller were found, which serve to illustrate the nature of the work done by "their majesties' principal painter in ordinary," as Kneller is usually described in the

time of William and Mary, and the extent to which he was remunerated. On April 19th, 1693, a warrant is dated for the payment to him of 500*l.* "for drawing tenn pictures of severall persons from head to foote for their maties service"; and on August 14th in the same year he is authorized to receive another payment of 500*l.* for similar work. A warrant of May 20th, 1694, secures to Kneller the sum of 100*l.* "for two pictures [of William and Mary, presumably] given by their majesties to the Hon^{ble} Francis Russell, Esq^r, Governor of Barbadoes, to remain there." On May 13th, 1697, there is paid to him 150*l.* for three pictures of the king in full length: one for the Earl of Manchester, Ambassador to Venice; another for Sir James Rushout, Ambassador to the "Emperor of the Turks"; the third for the Earl of Bellmont, Governor of New York and New England. Other entries occur showing that the invariable rate of pay to him was 50*l.* a picture. From the Treasury records, however, it appears that he received for some years a salary in addition at the rate of 200*l.* per annum. On July 8th, 1698, permission was granted for Kneller to take a copy of the Czar of Muscovy's picture at Kensington for the Earl of Albemarle; and at a later date he receives 150*l.* for some royal portraits to be presented to the same nobleman. He also painted a portrait of the king at length for Sir William Norris, Ambassador to the Great Mogul, for which the usual payment was made in June, 1699.

Five-Art Gossip.

THE Winter Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, which was opened to the public on Monday, contains two small and unambitious paintings by Mr. Watts: No. 44, 'Arion,' seated "on the dolphin's back," and a noble landscape of 'Naples' (45), at twilight. In the latter picture the dim bluish cone of Vesuvius is distinct against the pale gold sky. Sir F. Leighton has lent several capital studies (340-362) of scenery, landscapes, sea and sky pieces. Included in the loan are the original designs (5-10) for the coloration of his large pictures 'Fatidica,' 'Rizpah,' 'The Spirit of the Summit,' 'Summer Slumber,' and 'The Bracelet,' all of which were lately at the Academy. Mr. G. G. Kilburne contributes a clever small picture of a 'Bull-Fight' (11); Mr. R. Christie an academically graceful idyl which he calls 'Idleness' (8); and Mr. Yeend King some pleasing rural landscapes, such as 'Hemingford Abbots' (29) and others, all of which are, however, rather painty. Mr. Val. Davis is well represented, but not by novelties. Sir E. Burne-Jones's 'Portrait Study,' a half-length figure of a damsel day-dreaming, is, for him, more than usually masculine in style, but by no means his best work. There are pleasant colour and a graceful sleeping figure in Mr. G. S. Knowles's 'Intruders' (139). Messrs. F. W. Jackson, J. S. Noble, C. E. Marshall, W. A. Ingram, G. S. Hunter, J. E. Grace, W. Strutt, F. Roe, W. A. Loraine, H. G. Hewitt, J. Peel, G. C. Haité, F. S. Spenlove, as well as a few other painters who have not been quite so successful, contribute to make the present collection in Suffolk Street a good deal less depressing than usual.

At Mr. Graves's, 6, Pall Mall, may be seen a number of bright and agreeable landscapes, mostly of a decorative character, by Messrs. J. Weiss, F. Lewis, E. M. Wimperis, H. Hine, C. Rigby, J. Knight, J. Whaite, H. C. Whaite, A. East, C. Rigby, and other less-known artists. Conspicuous in the gallery are a number of landscapes and seascapes by Mr. W. W. Manning, mostly of Venice and Normandy, and noteworthy because of the artist's exceptional sensitiveness to the charms of colour in rather low and silvery keys and to the keeping and just tonality of his subjects. Occa-

sionally his works are much injured by an excess of paint, and his apparent indifference to the value of a fine and good surface when delicate effects of sunlight (of which Mr. Manning has a good knowledge) are to be dealt with. When such themes as those this artist evidently prefers are in question, it is not well to allow the surface of one's picture to be dotted all over with little knobs of paint, marring the gradations of colour and tone, and almost destroying the refinement of the work. It is but a crude kind of stippling at the best which produces this defect, while the result is such as no master from Elzheimer to Turner would have accepted. We regret the occurrence of this crudity—an exaggeration of Constable's weak point and a mere fad of some third-rate modern French landscape painters—in several of Mr. Manning's paintings. On the other hand, 'La Salute at Sunset' (60), 'La Salute' (67), 'San Giorgio, Evening' (71), 'Venice, from the Lido' (73), 'Tide Coming In' (77), 'Misty Day' (80), 'Showery Weather, Normandy' (94), and 'Summer Day in Normandy' (100) are, in diverse ways and degrees, specimens of very considerable promise.

MR. WATTS, to the state of whose health we referred last week, continues, we are happy to say, to improve, though he has not yet left his room.

THE Fine-Art Society has appointed to-day (Saturday) for the private view of Mr. C. Sainton's "Facts and Fancies in Water Colours," with which are to be seen "Drawings of India and Egypt," by Mr. R. Barratt.

A NUMBER of pastel drawings of "Wild Animals studied from the Life," by Mr. J. T. Nettleship, will be shown at Mr. Dunthorne's on and after Monday next; the private view is appointed for to-day (Saturday).

MR. MENDOZA has formed an exhibition of "Pictures in Black and White" at his gallery, King Street, St. James's.

THE Bristol Cross, which was taken down in 1763, and shortly afterwards presented to R. H. Colt Hoare and re-erected by him in his park at Stourhead, is now undergoing another "restoration." It has been moved to and fro so many times it must resemble Wallenstein's horse at Prague.

THE Rev. Hawkes Mason, of Upwell Rectory, Wisbech, is collecting notes for a monograph on altar slabs, and will be grateful for any information on the subject.

MR. ALGERNON GRAVES, whose new edition of his 'Dictionary of Artists' we described the other day, has furnished us with some curious statistics extracted from it. It comprises no fewer than 595 cross-references. Among this multitude 4 artists exhibited above 1,000 examples each; 2 above 900 each and under 1,000; 3 over 800; 5 over 700; 7 over 600; 12 over 500; 39 over 400; 71 over 300; 169 over 200; 525 above 100; and 20,866 fewer than 100 each. The ten artists who exhibited the greatest number of examples were Copley Fielding, 1,789; H. Gastineau, 1,341; W. Callow, 1,221; W. Collingwood Smith, 1,132; David Cox, 973; C. Davidson, 964; W. Collingwood, 879; S. P. Jackson, 866; William Hunt, 817; and John Varley, 786. These were, or are, all members of the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours, although several of them contributed to other exhibitions. The Presidents of the Royal Academy have been prolific in the following order and extent:—Shee exhibited 343 pictures; Lawrence, 315; West, 311; Reynolds, 272; Leighton, 243; and Eastlake, 69. Of course the duration of their tenure of their office, as well as their lives, differed widely.

THE *Times* announces the death of that learned archaeologist M. Léon Palustre, author of 'Mélanges d'Art et d'Archéologie' and 'La Renaissance en France.' He was a well-known contributor to the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*.

THE Society "Pulchri Studio" is holding at the Hague an exhibition of the works of its distinguished president, M. Mesdag.

OUR Naples Correspondent writes:—

"At Pesavella-Settemini, near Pompeii, there has lately been excavated on private property a large Roman bath-house, three chambers of which, with mosaic floors and marble baths of artistic design, are in good preservation, as also a roof some sixty feet long. In these baths the immense boiler is still in its original position, a thing never found in Pompeii itself, and a complete system of tubing, with bronze taps. The find is exciting great interest in archaeological circles here."

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Monday Popular Concerts.

MR. MAXNS was once more in his accustomed place last Saturday, and, though evidently not yet in perfect health, conducted with as much energy as usual. The principal feature of the programme was Tschaiakowsky's 'Symphonie Pathétique' in *b* minor, No. 6, which created such a profound impression when first performed by the Philharmonic Society in February last that it was repeated at a subsequent concert. The work was described on the first occasion (*Athen.* No. 3462), but it is only just to add that every successive hearing serves to increase the feeling of its beauty and impressiveness, and this in spite of irregularities of form which can only be condoned because the composer speaks forcibly in his own way. M. Ysaye was to have played Saint-Saëns's Violin Concerto in *b* minor on this occasion, but as the parts had not arrived the Belgian violinist gave instead Max Bruch's comparatively little-known Concerto in *b* minor, No. 2, which had only been played once before at the Crystal Palace. This work is not equal in merit to the German composer's first and third violin concertos, still it contains some fine passages, and M. Ysaye's splendid tone and technique were as noteworthy as ever. A first appearance as vocalist at Sydenham has to be recorded, that of Mlle. Otta Bröny, who made, on the whole, a favourable impression in airs by Rossini, Bendel, and Massenet. Mr. Hamish MacCunn's overture 'Land of the Mountain and the Flood' and Weber's 'Euryanthe' were included in the programme.

There was nothing particularly remarkable in the programme of the first Popular Concert of the thirty-seventh season on Monday evening, Mr. Arthur Chappell having decided, as usual, to commence his enterprise quietly. The concerted works were Beethoven's Quartet in *e* flat, Op. 74, and Schumann's Pianoforte Trio in *b* minor, Op. 63, the executants being Mlle. Wietrowetz, Mr. Leonard Borwick, Herr L. Ries, Mr. A. Gibson, and Mr. Whitehouse. The ensemble in the quartet was not absolutely faultless, but the trio was superbly rendered, Mr. Borwick again proving himself unsurpassable in Schumann's music. Our English pianist was almost equally admirable in Beethoven's Sonata in *c* minor, Op. 111, his interpretation of which, if not in any way startling, was noteworthy for intelligence and beautifully finished technique. Mlle. Wietrowetz played Max Bruch's Romance in a minor and major,

Op. 42, with much vigour; and Mrs. Helen Trust sang two little airs, 'A Cradle Song' and 'Damon,' by Max Stange, and an old-fashioned ditty "Ma chère amie," with exquisite taste. More refined vocalization could not be desired. The programme of next Monday includes an unusual proportion of novelties. Chopin's 'Fantaisie Polonaise' in A flat, Op. 61; two violoncello pieces, by Dvorák and Saint-Saëns respectively; and a Piano-forte Quintet in F by Moir Clarke, are all additions to the repertory.

Musical Gossip.

It is not at all likely that 'His Excellency,' written by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, with music by Dr. Osmond Carr, and produced at the Lyric Theatre last Saturday, will rival in popularity the least successful of the world-famed Gilbert and Sullivan operas. Mr. Gilbert's book is fairly up to the average, the notion of the Danish potentate, Governor Griffenfeld, whose main enjoyment in life is to perpetrate practical jokes, being humorous, and, as treated, original. Several of the lyrics are worthy of the author at his best, though a falling off in brightness is discernible in the second act. The principal weakness in the music is the composer's apparent inability to comprehend the true spirit of the lines he had to set. Dr. Carr is a scholastic musician, and his concerted music is well put together; but where his audience look for sparkle and piquancy they meet, for the most part, with dulness and triviality. The performance of 'His Excellency' is beyond reproach. Four former Savoy favourites take part in it, namely, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Miss Jessie Bond, and Miss Alice Barnett; and with these are associated Miss Ellaline Terriss, Miss Nancy McIntosh, Mr. Charles Kenningham, and Mr. John Le Hay. The stage arrangements, orchestra, and chorus are equally worthy of high praise.

The most noteworthy of the chamber concerts given in the smaller Queen's Hall this week was that of Mr. Ernest Kiver on Wednesday evening, when some interesting novelties were presented. The first, a Sonata in D for piano and violin, by Miss Rosalind Ellicott, is brightly and fluently written throughout with melodious themes; the most attractive of them is that which forms the principal subject of the second movement *andante pastorale*. The next was a selection of three violin pieces from a new set of nine by Dr. A. C. Mackenzie. They are headed "from the North," and are founded on ancient Scottish tunes. Of the three introduced on the present occasion the most pleasing was an *allegretto giocoso*, which was encored. The programme likewise included Macfarren's Piano-forte Trio in E, performed "in memoriam" of the composer, who died October 31st, 1887. The executants at this concert included the concert-giver, M. Émile Sauret, Dr. Mackenzie, Mr. Whitehouse, and Miss Hilda Wilson.

The concert given by Mr. Daniel Mayer at the Salle Erard on Thursday afternoon last week served to introduce Mr. John Lemmoné, an Australian flautist, who was heard to much advantage in a suite by Widor for piano and flute, which he played in conjunction with Madame Augarde, a well-trained and intelligent pianist. His technical capacity is undoubtedly far above the average. Mr. Whitney Mockridge, a Canadian tenor vocalist, took effective part in the concert.

MISS OLIVE HARCOURT, who gave a miscellaneous but yet high-class concert at the Queen's Hall on Friday evening in last week, is a pleasant soprano vocalist of the lighter calibre, and she sang airs by Paisiello and Jensen with purity and taste. In the first air of the Queen of Night from 'Die Zauberflöte' she overstrained her

powers. Miss Kate Woolf and Mr. Mirko Belinski gave a careful and acceptable reading of Mendelssohn's Sonata in E flat for pianoforte and violoncello, Op. 45.

It was unfortunate that the concerts of British chamber music arranged by Mr. Ernest Fowles at the Queen's Hall commenced on the same evening as the Popular Concerts, as it prevented the attention which would otherwise have been drawn to the enterprise. The principal items in the programme were Prof. Villiers Stanford's Quartet in G, Op. 44; Dr. Hubert Parry's Duet in E minor for two pianofortes; and Mr. Algernon Ashton's Pianoforte Quintet in E minor, No. 2. The executants in these and minor numbers were Miss Zimmermann, and Messrs. Ernest Fowles, Jasper Sutcliffe, Wallace Sutcliffe, Alfred Hobday, and W. H. Squire. Miss Hilda Wilson was the vocalist.

THERE were two performances in the smaller Queen's Hall on Tuesday. That in the afternoon was a pianoforte recital by Mr. Dal Young, a musician who has not acquired a reputation in London. He appeared to better advantage as a composer than as a player, his 'Fantasiettes Lyriques,' Op. 4, being tastefully written little pieces. But the hard touch and jerky style in Beethoven's Sonata in A flat, with the Funeral March, Op. 26, and various items by Chopin, were not calculated to win the approval of the audience.

IN the evening there was a chamber concert under the direction of Mr. N. Vert, the executants being Mr. E. Pitts pianoforte, Signor G. Contin and Mr. Norman Bath violinists, Mr. S. J. Waud viola, Signor L. G. Paggi violoncello, Mr. Dyved Lewys vocalist, and Mr. F. R. Kinkeed accompanist. The principal items in the programme were Beethoven's Quartet in C minor, Op. 18, No. 4; and Raff's Pianoforte Quintet in A minor, Op. 107, a fine but little-known work.

UNDER the heading of "Society for the Cultivation of Modern Chamber Music" a new association has been formed, chiefly by Mr. E. van der Straeten. The preliminary announcement is couched in most florid language, and what is meant by the allusion to "the machinations and intrigues which petty jealousy and narrow-minded schoolmasterdom often bring to bear upon the efforts of an independent mind" it is difficult to say. But the society will, of course, command notice in proportion to its merits. During the first season meetings will be held fortnightly at Messrs. Brinsmead's Rooms, when instrumental chamber works will be performed without regard to nationality or school. It is hoped that the concerts may be commenced during the present month.

MR. J. H. BONAWITZ's endeavours to secure favour for his "invisible musical performances" have not as yet met with much favour, for the audience in the smaller Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoon last week was by no means large. We venture to think that this able musician is fighting a hopeless battle as far as classical chamber music is concerned. There is no valid reason why quartets or works for pianoforte alone should be given with the performers screened from the audience. Mr. Bonawitz's clever Quartet in B flat minor, and Schumann's Fantasia in C, Op. 17, gaining nothing by presentation under such conditions. Among the artists who assisted the concert-giver were Miss C. A. Brousil, Miss Bertha Brousil, Mrs. Kate Bartholomew, Mrs. Schreiber, Mr. H. Lütgen, and Mr. C. P. Wynne.

THE meeting in the Guildhall on Saturday last, when the Lord Mayor distributed a large number of prizes to students of the Guildhall School of Music, was perhaps the most imposing function of the kind that has ever taken place in this country. The monetary value of the gifts must have amounted to several hundred pounds; and in the concert under Sir Joseph

Barnby's direction which preceded the formal ceremony, some of the pupils displayed exceptional promise. The music school on the Thames Embankment is evidently doing excellent work.

M. ZOLA is said to be engaged upon an original libretto for an opera to be composed by M. Bruneau. The co-operation of the two authors has already yielded such happy results that we trust the latest intelligence concerning them is true.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS offers a prize of 100*l.* for a one-act opera suitable for the company of which he and his gifted wife Madame Fanny Moody are leading members. The conditions will shortly be published.

THE death is announced of Frau Johanna Jachmann-Wagner, a niece of Richard Wagner, who obtained fame as a dramatic vocalist many years before her uncle's masterworks gained general recognition, and after her marriage was equally successful as an actress, thanks in part to her fine presence and impressive manner. Frau Jachmann-Wagner sang at Her Majesty's Theatre during the last years of Lumley's management in 1856, and her final appearances as a public singer were at the inauguration of the Bayreuth Theatre in 1876, when she appeared as a Walküre, and as a Norn in 'Der Ring des Nibelungen.'

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

MON.	Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
TUE.	Madame George Fortescue's Recital, 3.30, Burlington Hall.
	Wagner Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
	Miss Mary Whittingham's Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
WED.	Royal Society of Musicians Performance of the 'Lobgesang,' 'The Cradle of Christ,' &c., 7, Westminster Abbey.
THURS.	Mrs. Katherine Flak's Song Recital, 3, Salle Erard.
	Queen's Hall Choral Society, Mr. W. Carter's 'Placida' and 'Rosini's' 'Stabat Mater,' 8.
FRI.	Hamstead Popular Concert, 8, the Vestry Hall.
	Mr. F. Griffith's Flute Recital, 8.30, Salle Erard.
SAT.	Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
	Crystal Palace Concert, 3.
	Polytechnic Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

THE Garrick Theatre returned on Saturday night last into the hands of Mr. Hare, who, on reopening it, resumed the interrupted run of 'Money.' Two or three changes of no special importance had been made in the cast, the most significant being, perhaps, the substitution of Mr. Charles Groves for Mr. Henry Kemble as Stout. Mrs. Bancroft, still "specially retained," overplayed in her most exhilarating fashion as Lady Franklin, and left Mr. Arthur Cecil as Graves no chance but to share her mistake. Mr. Hare remained an ideal "stingy Jack," and Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Kate Rorke all but commended to us the effective, if somewhat tawdry scenes of sentiment. Mr. Brookfield, Mr. Aynesworth, Mr. Scott Buist, and Miss Luck were included in a performance which, with some allowance for the over-emphasis already noted, may be pronounced unequalled.

'LITTLE CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS' was transferred on Monday night from the Lyric, now occupied with 'His Excellency,' to Terry's Theatre. Miss Conyers there appeared for the first time as the discoverer, other parts being resumed by Messrs. Lonnen and Sheridan and Miss Geraldine Umar.

ANOTHER is added to the almost interminable series of musical burlesques by the production on Wednesday at the Trafalgar of Mr. Philip Hayman's burlesque 'All my Eye-vanhoe.' Messrs. J. L. Shine and Robson, Miss Agnes Hewitt, and Miss Phyllis Broughton took part in the representation. The entertainment must be pronounced contemptibly silly.

THE Independent Theatre, which has been to some extent reconstituted, promises—in addition to other novelties by Mr. Bernard Shaw, Mr. Hubert Crackanthorpe, Mr. E. T. Spence, and Mrs. Oscar Beringer—'The First Step,' a three-act drama by Mr. William Heinemann,

and 'Thyrza Fleming,' a four-act play by Miss Dorothy Leighton. The last-named lady will be associated with Mr. Grein in the management. Mr. A. Teixeira de Mattos will remain literary secretary and translator, and Mr. H. de Lange stage manager.

'THE JOKER,' a farcical comedy by Mr. Howard Tennyson, is to be given shortly, under the direction of Miss Sarah Thorne, at an afternoon performance, with a cast including Mr. T. Thorne and Mr. Maltby.

'THE DAREDEVIL,' by Messrs. Arthur Shirley and Herbert Leonard, has been given for copyright purposes at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

'JOHN A DREAMS,' by Mr. Haddon Chambers, will be produced at the Haymarket on Thursday next.

An addition to the transpontine playhouses has been made by the opening on Monday night of the Métropole Theatre, situated in Denmark Hill. The opening performances consisted of Mr. Grundy's 'Sowing the Wind,' given by Mr. Carr's travelling company, headed by Mr. Vernon and Miss Lena Ashwell. Mr. Mulholland is the lessee.

SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN has, it is said, finished the music for Mr. Carr's version of 'King Arthur,' the production of which may be expected towards the beginning of next year. Until that period the Lyceum will remain closed.

In the repertory carried by Mrs. Langtry to the United States on her departure on Saturday is said to be 'A Dream of Life,' a romantic play by Mr. Edward Rose.

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